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Volume 70, Issue 28 · www.wilcoxnewspapers.com
Thursday, January 9, 2025

Kanola Band

MexiCuba

Ransom Library announces acts for Winter Concerts

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

The annual Winter Concert Series at Ransom Library has become a favorite for library staff members and patrons alike.

This year's event kicks off on Sunday, Feb. 16, with the band The Rebel Eves. MexiCuba and Kanola Band will follow the next two Sundays, with Selkie wrapping up the series on March 9.

All concerts begin at 2 p.m. in the library's Hill Performance Room and are free to the public.

"There is a lot to love about the concert series," Ransom director Joe Gross said. "We have always enjoyed the positive surprise from patrons who don't expect to find great live music at the library, but even more than that is the experience of witnessing a special musical moment with community.

"The spectacular view of the Kalamazoo River from the Hill Performance Room adds to the moments as well, as does the room itself."

Gross was quick to offer praise to Betsy Hill for her donation that helped create the Hill Performance Room. Hill passed away last July.

The Winter Concert Series began in 2012, and started out with performances spread throughout the winter.

After struggling with attendance the first few years, the decision was made to put schedule the concerts on consecutive weeks. The rest, as they say, is history.

"Putting the shows together really helped us promote the programs to our community," Gross said. "Ever since then, attendance at the concerts has ranged between 40 and 200 people."

Gross is excited about this year's lineup, saying that Kanola Band has been booked for nearly a year to play the library's Parti-Gras concert on Sunday, March 2.

"(Kanola Band) is a group made up of all-star talent that I've come to know from other acts, and I'm glad we were able to get them."

River Road Foods will provide refreshments for the Parti-Gras concert, with the refreshments free while they last.

"We very much want to thank the Friends of Ransom Library for financially sponsoring the Parti-Gras event in full," Gross said.

Like Kanola Band, Selkie—which plays a lot of Celtic music—is also a collaboration of local players.

"We're lucky to have them just before St. Patrick's Day," Gross said.

MexiCuba is based in Grand Rapids, while The Rebel Eves "is exploding in popularity in Southwest Michigan and beyond," according to Gross.

"These four acts were also chosen to offer as

■ see **Concerts**, Page A8

Chocolate Stroll scheduled in downtown Plainwell

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

Images from last year's Chocolate Stroll in downtown Plainwell came be seen above and below. This year's Chocolate Stroll–the fourth since the event began in 2022–is set for Saturday, Feb. 8.

February is synonymous with Valentine's Day, and Valentine's Day is synonymous with chocolate.

That's what makes the Chocolate Stroll in downtown Plainwell such a fitting event.

Scheduled for Saturday, Feb. 8, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., the Chocolate Stroll will be filled with "Valentine's Day vibes," according to City of Plainwell community development manager Denise Siegel.

"The Chocolate Stroll is perfect for couples, friends or families looking to celebrate the season," Siegel said. "(You can) explore Plainwell, walk along the riverwalk located in our downtown and shop our Indoor Farmers Market.

"Many of the downtown shops will be featuring Valentine's Day inspired gift ideas. Plus, you can check out all of our restaurants, as they will be offering Chocolate Stroll specials."

This is the fourth year for the Chocolate Stroll, which aims to shine a light on the businesses in downtown Plainwell during a traditionally slower time of the year.

"The event is hosted by the City of Plainwell as a way to promote our local shops and restaurants during the month of February," Siegel said. "Hosting the event during this time ties it naturally to the season's theme of Valentine's Day, making it appealing for participants.

"It also helps in revitalizing downtown activities after the holiday season. The event aims to draw people back downtown to rekindle activity and engagement. February is an ideal time re-ignite consumer habits and create an enjoyable experience that gently encourages spending and support of our local businesses.

"The Chocolate Stroll generates traffic and sales for our shops, restaurants and Farmers Market during a period that might otherwise be slower."

Describing the Chocolate Stroll as an event that combines "indulgence, community and local charm," Siegel said participants can expect a fun-filled day.

"Chocolate treats will be available at a variety of our shops and there will be specialty drinks from the local bars in our Social District," Siegel said.

Bars in the social district include the 10th Street Saloon and 1871 Taproom.

"There will be the opportunity to explore local shops, boutiques and restaurants in a welcoming and festive atmosphere," Siegel said. "Special promotions will offered by the local businesses to encourage browsing and shopping."

In addition, MI Grounds will host kids' activities courtesy of Ransom District Library.

According to Siegel, exact specials that will be offered by businesses and restaurants have yet to be finalized. But those interested in attending the Chocolate Stroll can stay updated on the City of Plainwell's Facebook page. Information will also be available at the City's website—plainwell.org—under the Special Events tab.

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Laketown to make manager decision on Jan. 8

The Laketown Township Board of Trustees has put contract negotiations for a new manager on hold until Jan. 8, with some members saying they want to open negotiations with another candidate. By that time, the current manager will have retired.

In the absence of a manager, Supervisor Steve Ringelberg will handle day-to-day office operations, the board decided at a special meeting on Monday, Dec. 30, 2024.

The process

Long-time Manager Al Meshkin announced in July that he was retiring on Jan. 3, 2025. The replacement process began in August and on Nov. 13, the township board approved negotiations with Bob Genetski, choosing the current Allegan County Clerk and Register of Deeds over Brandon Mersman, city manager of Bronson, Mich.

Ringelberg negotiated a contract with Genetski for $110,000 with the possibility of a bonus. The job advertisement posted a salary range of $115,000 to $140,000.

On Dec. 11, the board failed to approve that contract with Genetski.

At that meeting, Ringelberg and Treasurer Jim Johnson supported the contract with Genetski, saying he is well-known, a quick-learner and was responsive to constituent needs when he was serving in the State House of Representatives.

Clerk Jim Delaney and Trustee Mike Koeman want to hire Mersman because of his experience in local government. Trustee Mark Timmerman was on Zoom for that meeting and by law could not vote. A tie means a motion fails.

A special meeting scheduled for Dec. 17 to address the issue was canceled due to a lack of quorum, the number of board members needed to hold a meeting. The Laketown Township board needs three members present.

Two candidates

The special Dec. 30 meeting was the earliest the board could meet again. Local government meetings between the Christmas and New Year holidays are rare. Four of the five board members were present. Johnson was absent due to Covid, according to Ringelberg. The four others were present.

Koeman said Mersman would not need training before starting.

"Nothing against Genetski," he said, "but sitting here, having to make this decision, I have to go with what's best for the township."

Delaney said Mersman has all the needed qualifications to lead the township.

"Everything adds up to Mr. Mersman here," he said.

Timmerman made the motion to table the contract issue with Genetski until the meeting on Jan. 8 when the board will also discuss possibly offering a contract to Mersman. The motion passed with Ringelberg voting against it.

The Jan. 8 meeting is at 5 p.m. at the township hall, 4338 Beeline Road.

At the previous meeting, Koeman and Delaney supported negotiating with both Genetski and Mersman simultaneously.

Supervisor as manager

In the meantime, the board voted on Dec. 30 unanimously to assign the duties of the outgoing manager to Ringelberg until an interim or permanent manager is in place. Some of Meshkin's duties include acting as zoning administrator, water and wastewater official, planning director, financial manager and personnel director.

Ringelberg will also handle day-to-day operations of the office and staff.

At the Jan. 8 meeting, the board will discuss the possibility of compensating Ringelberg for the manager duties.

Allegan Area ESA Tech Center to celebrate new auto tech building

The Allegan Area ESA Tech Center is thrilled to announce the grand opening of its brand-new Auto Tech Building, designed to provide students with cutting-edge facilities for hands-on learning and career preparation in the automotive industry. A ribbon cutting ceremony and open house will mark this milestone on January 9, 2025.

The event will begin with a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony at 3:30 PM, featuring remarks from Superintendent William Brown and Michigan Department of Education State Superintendent Dr. Michael F. Rice. Following the ceremony, attendees are invited to explore the new building during an Open House, which will include guided tours, live demonstrations, and opportunities to meet the instructors and students who make the program a success.

"This new facility represents a significant investment in the future of our students and community," said Superintendent William Brown. "It will allow us to enhance career and technical education, preparing students for meaningful careers in the automotive industry."

2500 county residents to receive survery

By John Raffel
Correspondent

ALLEGAN — The third version of the National Community Survey will soon be sent to 2,500 county residents in a statistically balanced sample of the county's population. The six-page survey includes two broad areas: local questions

on specific issues affecting county residents and a national portion that seeks to profile Allegan County in comparison with other local governments across the nation.

After those sampled have had an opportunity to respond to the survey, former commissioner James Storey said a website will be opened for any resident to response to the questions. Local questions include law enforcement issues, including cyber-crimes; day care and child care availability, housing availability and gaps, the physical condition of housing, implementation of the county's appetite for a parks and recreation millage, how residents prefer to receive information, the level of preparation residents have for emergencies, and how residents prefer to receive emergency information: sirens, notification to cell phones, or something else.

The Board of Commissioners approved the survey at its December 12, 2024, meeting, but approval of the cover letter will be considered at the board's January 9 meeting. The previous two surveys in 2020 and 2022 helped the board set priorities for funding and programs.

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- Referral to specialists where indicated
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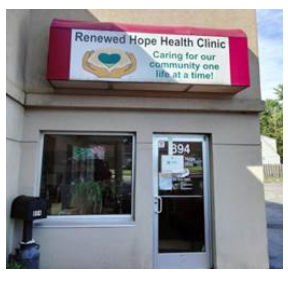

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Wayland DDA reflects on 2024 accomplishments

By Holli McPherson & Gari Voss

The City of Wayland has worked diligently over the last few years with the support of Main Street Wayland to become a destination for those who are looking for events that will gather to-gether individuals, families and groups with diverse backgrounds and preferences. Looking back on 2024, Executive Director of the Wayland Downtown Development Authority (DDA) Holli McPherson identified some of the events that brought residents and visitors out onto the Wayland streets.

"Between the Buns provided a strong start to 2024 for Downtown Wayland," reflects McPher-son. "Eleven businesses joined in the competition to create signature sandwiches. The patrons vot-ed for their favorite sandwiches then the judges judicated. We raised over $1,000 for the Hand2Hand program that provides meals for school-aged children. Wayland Hotel Bar and Grill won the judges' vote and Sandbar Grill won the popular vote.

In February, the city added a Chocolate Walk. Chocolate lovers and friends were invited to stroll the streets of Downtown Wayland and try a variety of delicious chocolate treats. A map was furnished so the public could participate in a free "SWEET adventure".

On the second Friday of each month from January to May, a Cocktail & Appetizer Trail was blazed through Wayland. Restaurants and eateries in Downtown Wayland created cocktails of the month at each participating location. These included non-alcoholic mocktail versions. Participants were encouraged to grab a booklet and get it marked each month to become eligible for prizes.

Wayland found a variety of ways to invite people to the community.

Thanks to the Main Street Vibrancy Grant Program, Wayland was able to create a new sign welcoming visitors to the city.

A Transformer wandering the streets during Monster Mash in Wayland brought smiles and admirers.

"We also started a High School Senior and Veteran Banner program to honor our seniors and veterans," stated McPherson.

"The veterans banner is a program that is run through the DDA once a year. We collect photos of veterans and hang the banners downtown from May 1st through May 30th. Each banner costs $75 and will be rehang each year," explained McPherson.

"The senior banners are hung throughout the trimesters during the year. We take orders all year long. We learned that most students do not get their senior photos until winter, so we have it open all year around," added McPherson.

"Downtown Wayland received several grants last year, one being the Vibrancy Grant through the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC). With this grant, we were able to pur-chase a new Welcome Sign and speakers for Downtown Wayland," interjected McPherson.

The Main Street Vibrancy Grant Program is intended to provide grants of $25,000 to Select or Master level Michigan Main Street communities for projects that enhance the vibrancy and eco-nomic vitality of Michigan Main Street downtowns.

McPherson asserted, "2024 was a record for visitors with over 100,000 visitors to our down-town and events!

To encourage participation of a wide range of residents, the city also added an Art Alley creat-ed by their Junior DDA. This group of High Schoolers worked on projects downtown to help cre-ate a better place to live. The scarecrow decorating during October activated local businesses, or-ganizations, and families.

"We were able to add to our main events and grow them," explained McPherson. "Summerfest was a strong start to the prime vacation months and drew the largest crowd in years! Monster Mash grew to around 7,000 visitors, our largest event of the year! We had a Trunk or Treat with a Trans-former walking around, DJ, costume contest, and more! Snowfest, Block Party, and Concerts in the Park continued in 2024 as well as other activities for the family. Bike Night came back this year, and the attendance grew thanks to the West Michigan Combat Veteran Motorcycle Associa-tion."

The Foam area was extremely popular during Summerfest in Wayland.

Along with all this, Wayland welcomed a new manager, Erik Wilson, who was previously at Texas Township and Plainwell. The city leadership is excited to have him and see the great things to come.

While Wayland Main Street explored new and expanded events, the Wayland Area Chamber of Commerce continued working with area businesses in Wayland and the surrounding communi-ties. Not only did the Chamber support local businesses on Small Business Saturday, but they held the 20th Annual Wayland Community Expo and regular social events to promote education and networking.

The City of Wayland DDA and Main Street Wayland will continue to work hand-in-hand with the Wayland Area Chamber of Commerce to design and improve ways to spotlight the businesses and organizations as they pull together to provide a variety of events that bring together local resi-dents while drawing in visitors from a much wider geography.

Community Events

Community Calendar - Week of Jan. 6, 2025

EVENTS TO WATCH FOR!

Jan 9, 2025, 6pm: Yoga at the Library - Join local yoga instructor, Hanna Brynn, for a relaxing yoga session at the library. Mats, blocks, and straps will be provided, but feel free to bring your own. Register at 269 673-4625.

Jan. 13, 2025, 3:30pm: Creature Feature w/ the Kalamazoo Nature Center –3:30pm: Creature Feature w/ the Kalamazoo Nature Center – Allegan District Library

Jan. 14, 2025, 9-11am: Monthly Coffee Hour for Vets – Immanuel Lutheran Church

CURRENT EVENTS

Wed., Jan. 8, 2025: Fun at the Library
Allegan Library 331 Hubbard St. Allegan

2pm: Recess for Adults – Join friends from The Arc for crafting, playing games, and conversing.

6pm: Wiggle Worms Play 'N Learn – Join in for stories, activities and songs with 0-3 year olds and their siblings.

Thurs., Jan. 9, 2025: Fun at the Library
Allegan Library 331 Hubbard St. Allegan

10:30am: Preschool Storytime with Help Me Grow - Learn about "Talking is Teaching" and go home with a free book.

6pm: Yoga at the Library - Join local yoga instructor, Hanna Brynn, for a relaxing yoga session at the library. Mats, blocks, and straps will be provided, but feel free to bring your own. Register at 269 673-4625.

Mon., Jan. 13, 2025: Fun at the Library
Allegan Library 331 Hubbard St. Allegan

10am: Messy Munchkins – Ages 0-6 can come in and get messy creating and displaying their artwork.

1pm: Crafts & Snacks – Bring a project and work on whatever while snacking and chatting.

3:30pm: Creature Feature w/ the Kalamazoo Nature Center – All ages can enjoy as the Kalamazoo Nature Center presents a Creature Feature program highlighting different reptiles and amphibian ambassador animals that are found in and around Michigan's rivers and wetlands.

Tues., Jan. 14, 2025, 9-11am: Monthly Coffee Hour for Vets
Immanuel Lutheran Church 631 Grand St. Allegan
All Veterans who have served or are serving are invited to gather, share conversation, and enjoy coffee and donuts/rolls! For mor info, call 269 673-3335.

Tues., Jan. 14, 2025: Fun at the Library
Allegan Library 331 Hubbard St. Allegan

10:30am: Lapsit Storytime – Children 0-2 can read, sing and learn for fun.

3:30pm: Discover 4-H w/MSU Extension – Ages 5-12 can learn about 4-H and different countries around the world.

6pm: Book & a Movie w/ Friends of the Library – *The Princess Bride* book is available at the library then watch the movie while munching on popcorn.

Wed., Jan. 15, 2025, 9-11am: MACC Annual Meeting
Perrigo Conference Room 490 Eastern Ave. Allegan
Celebrate a year-in-review and hear a presentation from the Office of Rural Prosperity. RSVP by Jan. 6th. at https://allegan.fcsuite.com/erp/donate/list/event?event_date_id=1462 or contact Lauren at MACC@alleganfoundation.org

Wed., Jan. 15, 2024: Fun at the Library
Allegan Library 331 Hubbard St. Allegan

1pm: Play-Doh Play Lab – Ages 0-7 can create with Play Doh.

6:30pm: Pub Quiz at Tantrick Brewing – At 5:30pm, head to Tantrick's and sign up your team. Then prepare to dual.

Wed., Jan. 15, 2025, 5-9pm: Pizza Fundraiser
Pizza Hut 1224 W. M89 Plainwell
Enjoy delicious pizza during this fundraiser where 10% of the proceeds go to the VFW Post 3030 that works to unite veterans from all services.

Thurs., Jan. 16, 2025: Fun at the Library
Allegan District Library 331 Hubbard St. Allegan

10:30am: Preschool Storytime – Enjoy stories and activities.

6:30pm: Pub Quiz at Tantrick Brewery. Registration begins at 5:30pm. Bring a library card and earn extra points.

Fri., Jan. 17, 2025, 6pm: Teen Tech Night
Allegan District Library 331 Hubbard St. Allegan
6th-12th graders can experience virtual reality, explore the realm of 3-D printing, and play video games after hours. Snacks are provided. Register at 269 673-4625.

Fri., Jan. 17, 2025, 6-8pm: Lantern Lit Night Hike
Armintrout-Milbocker Nature Preserve Thomas St. Allegan
Sponsored by the SW Michigan Land Conservancy, the hike has a waiting list for a guided hike over about one mile with complimentary hot chocolate. https://swmlc.org/lantern-lit-night-hike/

Mon., Jan 20, 2025: Fun at the Library
Allegan District Library 331 Hubbard St. Allegan

1pm: Drop in Lego Club – Ages 6-12 can create with Legos.

3:30pm: Tween/Teen Trivia – Students in grades 6-12 can test their knowledge during rounds of Jeopardy. Register at 269 673-4625.

6pm: Craftastic: XOXO Wreath – All are welcome to register and participate. 269 673-4625

Tues., Jan. 21, 2025: Fun at the Library
Allegan District Library 331 Hubbard St. Allegan

10:30am: Lapsit Storytime - Children 0-2 can read, sing and learn for fun.

4pm: TAB: Tween Advisory Board – students in grades 5-8 are welcome to share ideas and make plan for TAB activities.

6pm: Library Board Meeting

ONGOING OPPORTUNITIES

ASSISTANCE

Adventist Community Service Center
218 S. Farmer St. Otsego Tues. 10am-4pm; Thurs. 1-5pm
Clothes for the family and household goods are available, layettes for newborns, clothing, diapers, toys, etc. for babies to 6 mo. For emergency needs, call 269 694-4775 or Marlene 269 217-8293. This is supported by the 7th-Day Adventist Church and an ACCF TAG Grant.

Allegan County Community Action - Assistance for daily living
23 Water Street, Allegan, MI 49010, www.communityactionallegan.org, (269) 673-5472
Food, weatherization, early childhood education.

Allegan Homeless Solutions - Locating assistance for the homeless
409 Oaks Crossing, Suite 142, Plainwell MI 49080
www.alleganhomelesssolutions.org, Gail Hill – kittygran@gmail.com

The Arc of Allegan County - Advocates for people with disabilities
219 Hubbard Street, Allegan 269 673-8841
Mission to advocate for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities in the community.

Baby Closet – Newborn Clothing and Supplies
Diaper Closet – monthly diaper program
Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd, 101 N. Walnut Street Allegan
Call 269 673-2254 and leave a message.

Bridges of Hope, Allegan County - Assistance to move out of poverty
108 E Grant Street, Plainwell, MI 49080, bridgesofhopeallegancounty.org, (269) 204-6041
Foster relationships with individuals desiring to move out of poverty by providing community resources.

Christian Neighbors - Food, Education, Emergency Financial Assistance
282 12th Street Plainwell MI 49080 (269) 685-4166
Monday: Drive-thru only - 10am-12pm and 4pm-6pm.
Tuesday: In person shopping/walk ins - 10am-12pm
Thursday: In person shopping/walk ins - 2pm-5pm
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Community Clothes Closet – Free Clothing and More
Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd, 101 N. Walnut Street, Allegan (269) 673-2254
Open Fridays, 10am – 1pm A wide selection of clothing for all ages is available.

People Helping People of Pullman
Assistance by appt. 269 236-6295

Safe Harbor Children's Advocacy Center - abuse prevention and healing
402 Trowbridge Street, Allegan, MI 49010 www.safeharborallegan.org, (269) 673-3791

St. Vincent de Paul-St. Margaret Conference - Food and More
St. Vincent de Paul 124A W. Allegan St. Otsego
Mon.: 1-3pm Tues. & Thurs: 10am to noon Wed.: 3-5pm
Food pantry and limited financial aid. Dtvincentdepaul9005@gmail.com
Serves Otsego, Plainwell and Martin School Districts

Sylvia's Place - Safe from Domestic Violence
Crisis Line: 269 673-8700

United Church of Wayland - Free Clothing
1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month, 4 - 6pm
411 E Superior St. in Wayland

Wings of Hope Hospice & Palliative Care - End of Life Care
530 Linn Street, Allegan, MI 49010, www.wingsofhopehospice.com, (269) 686-8659

FOOD

Allegan Food Pantry
Church of God, 1313 Lincoln Rd., Allegan
Monday: 10 am–1pm; Tues.: 2–7pm; Fri. 1-4pm Curbside Service
Contact: Phone: 269 686-6369
Deliveries are made to homebound senior citizens.

Christian Neighbors, SE
282 12th St. Plainwell 269 685-4166

Christian Neighbors, Wayland
122 Church St. Wayland 269 792-2870

Congregational Kitchen - Thursday Dinner Pickup
Congregational Church 325 Cutler Street Allegan
Call (269) 673-3139 after 3pm any Thursday and place an order.
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LIVING WITH GRIEF

BY RONNIE EWING/ AFTERCARE SPECIALIST

LIVING WITH GRIEF, is a monthly column provided by Gorden Funeral Residence. Each month LIVING WITH GRIEF will feature some helpful advice, as you the reader move forward in your own personal grieving process, or simply want to be educated to help those whom you may know have recently experienced a loss, or traumatic event.

The Holidays were here, and now they are gone! How did you do? This time of the year can be not only hectic for our schedules, but also hard on mental health. Trying to fulfill obligations and invites can drive you crazy. Add trauma in the mix, and one can become the next reported terrorist. So what can you do about it? Take a chill pill!!! That's what my Mom used to say. She wasn't implying for me to get hooked on drugs, well maybe she was??? Kidding, but more than likely it was more like don't forget to breathe. Breathing can be a very therapeutic way of relieving stress. Deep inhale, hold, exhale, then repeat. I know it sounds kooky, but don't knock it till you've tried it. Especially inhaling through your nose. Then exhale through your mouth. You'll have more of a chance to avoid dizziness.

This is just one small way to relieve stress and anxiety we experience while, LIVING WITH GRIEF.

Gorden Funeral Residence

Residents tell winter storm driving experiences

By Cindy Sasser

The photo is courtesy of Kyle Maricle of Allegan from his dash cam; January of 2022 on 196 near South Haven. He's been driving semi tractor trailer for a decade. "Snow squalls popped up and caused several slide offs," he said.

Brian, a truck driver from outside of Allegan said, "it's a white-knuckle job sometimes. I've been in snow storms where I couldn't tell if I were still on the road or drifting off and hard to tell where exits were in the dark. I've also been on roads that looked clear but were slippery as could be. Scary feeling when your semi starts slipping and drifting in its own direction. All you can do is make slow movements and hope to keep it straight whether on the road or in the ditch."

Another man shared that he drives a propane truck for a living. He said he's out in all the storms and if people need propane, those roads likely aren't plowed.

One thing I've learned is that Michigan people are brave people! They get out there no matter what and do what they have to do!

My first time driving in a winter storm was a snow squall a few weeks ago. It was night time and I had to get home from work. I didn't have snow tires or any such experience (I grew up in Arizona). I opted for a back road as I was sliding badly and needed to take it slow. The trip was long, pitch dark, winding, with dear darting's, and very low visibility. As I finally arrived home an hour later, I cried.

I've driven in snow and ice around town and have even had to Starsky & Hutch it a couple of times, but I've never experienced anything like that before… it was a terrifying experience!

I'd like to share a few stories from people in Allegan County and some advice given.

Abigail from Otsego …

"Three or four years ago I was driving an old beater Buick with bald tires. This was soon after a big ice storm and a blizzard. Snow was coming down so hard you couldn't see 10 feet in front of the car. This Buick was like a boat. It floated over bumps and slid like a hockey player on ice. Was making the curve by the old folks trailer park on Ravine; everything was ice with 2 feet of snow on top. Pushing the snow and fighting to see past it; next thing I know, old Betsy started sliding. Wasn't no stopping it; her tires were slick as the road! I didn't hit gas, brake, or anything; just braced for what was coming while staring into the abyss and woods just after the curve. Next thing I know, I see a man dressed in all black head-to-toe hoofing it! I tell you my stomach dropped to my ass and I hammered down on that gas! I barely managed to get traction on the gravel just on the edge of the road… I barely missed the guy by a hair! I felt awful and kept driving out of sheer panic and embarrassment. Made it up to the next couple driveways and turned back to check on the man and offer a ride. No one around, no one to be found. No idea to this day where he went or who he was."

Crystal from Allegan …

"In the blow zone going from Allegan to Holland; zero visibility. Scary because you can't see anyone else. At least I had plow lights. Hazard lights help others see you also."

JoDanna from Holland …

"Christmas Eve 2017, driving from Illinois to Allegan, it took over 4 hours from just South of Michigan City along the lake shore in the middle of the night. I pulled up GPS to predict which way the road was curving while hubby kept the minivan tires moving. If you stopped, you were stuck. Even following a snow plow offered very little relief. Luckily our kiddos were too little to understand how bad it was. We were new here and didn't realize that if we just cut inland more, it would have been night and day different. NEVER again!"

Diane from Allegan ...

"Make sure you have snacks, water, your car gassed up, blankets, foot and hand warmers, your phone charged up, etc. Good winter tires are a must. If you're stuck, get out and clear snow away from your exhaust frequently to avoid carbon monoxide poisoning which can be fatal."

Jeannie from Holland …

"I remember a few years back when the piles of snow on the side of M40 were 15-20 feet tall! Those whiteouts and blizzard conditions were horrible between Hamilton and Holland. Got out of work and it took 45 minutes to get to Hamilton due to stopped traffic and acci-dents. One lady came out of a whiteout doing 30-40mph and lost control. Then her car was sitting dead across the lane. I was praying no one would hit her coming out of that whiteout. Our lane started going so I have no idea how it ended. Drive slow, don't get frustrated at people doing 20 -30mph in bad conditions; you don't know the traction or experience level they have. Don't drive under the influence of anything and keep emergency supplies in your car when the weather is bad."

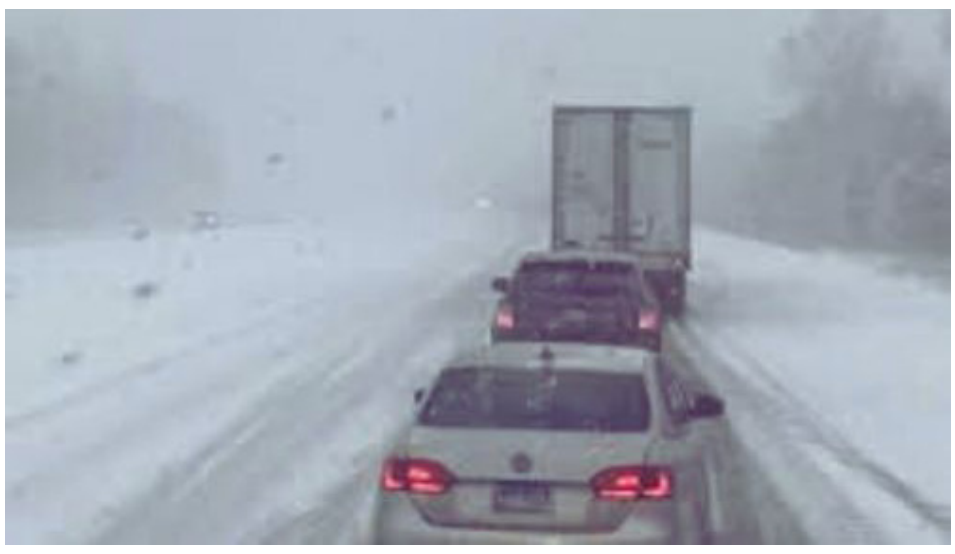

Photo Courtesy of Kyle Maricle of Allegan

Lory from Kentwood …

"My father gave me wise advice: Always keep one set of your tires on snow for traction. When climbing an icy incline, use first gear, your tires will turn slower giving you more con-trol. Always drive the speed necessary for road conditions; it will not be what's posted. Keep distance between you and the car ahead of you. Gradually slow down before you come to a stop sign or red light, you'll need the time to safely stop. Apply your brakes gently and slow-ly, too fast or too hard, you'll lose control. Be aware; a road may look wet but it's likely to be black ice. Never use your high beams; it's bad news for you and for those coming toward you."

Julie from Allegan …

"If the shit shines, the shit is slippery!"

Stacy from Plainwell …

"I was driving my husband and myself to work; our work places were about 5 minutes apart. It appeared to be fine until I hit a patch of black ice. Tried to slow down and the vehicle did a 360, went on two tires, almost flipped, then slammed back down! Tore one tire right off the rim! The spare tire was stuck and I had no tools so my dad came and helped us change the tire. No other damage thankfully. I got us to work doing 35mph the whole way. I left finger grooves in the steering wheel from white knuckling it so hard."

Lynda from Monterey Township …

"Winter was fun back in the day when we would load up and go "snow bucking" … you drive your ride directly into the snow drift! Don't forget the shovels and kitty litter just in case. Fun and dress warm! It wouldn't be complete if you didn't do a few donuts in a parking lot."

Ashley and Kellie from Otsego …

"My cousin Kellie and I worked together and I was driving us on M40 North going slow; it was alllll ice and terrible out. Came around a small curve, lost control, and spun a couple times. There was an oncoming dump truck; thought we were gonna die but hit the guardrail instead. Lost a bunch of pieces of the car but we made it to our destination and helped our patient!"

Kellie added that it was "hilarious and scary all at the same time." I think it's great they can have a sense of humor about it! On a serious note, Ashley gave some great instruction:

"If you start sliding, spinning, or losing control, take your foot off the gas, put your car in neutral to stop the drive train, and steer INTO the way you're sliding or spinning. If you steer away from where your car is naturally going, you could flip or make it worse.

"Learn the brakes on your car. If you have anti locks, which you probably do, push and HOLD the breaks. Do not pump them. If you're going downhill or think you're going to slide, put the car in neutral and take your foot off the gas. Then engage your breaks.

"Also keep in mind that deer are moving this time of year so always watch for them. Hit the deer/animal/object - don't swerve!"

Brian advises to make slow movements changing lanes, etc. Slow down. "As Dorothy once said, 'there's no place like home.' If the weather is extremely bad and you're not comfortable driving in it. Don't. Stay home. Stay safe."

And cheers to the amazing drivers of the snow plows and the salt trucks!

Obituary

Jeffrey Mark Webb, 67

Jeffrey Mark Webb, 67, of Allegan, MI passed away Monday, December 30, 2024. Born October 17, 1957 in Allegan, he was the son of the late Noel and Julia (Rockwell) Webb and on June 22, 1979 he married Julie Brosz. Mark worked at TruHeat in Allegan for over thirty years and obtained his maintenance journeyman's card during that time. He was a proud member of the UAW. After his time at TruHeat, Mark went to work at Gun Lake Casino for seven years before retirement; he was there on their opening day. He loved the outdoors, especially going camping. Mark had camped on the shores of every Great Lake and the Bay of Funday on the Atlantic Ocean. He loved to visit the local lighthouses while he was on these trips. Mark was an avid Detroit Tigers fan and a music enthusiast

Jeffrey Mark Webb

with a massive vinyl album collection. He loved snowboarding, watching cheesy old horror movies late at night and working on projects with his son, Michael. He was proud of his native heritage and a member of the Nottawaseppi Huron Band of the Potawatomi.

Mark is survived by his wife of more than forty-five years, Julie Webb; son, Michael Webb and wife Taylor, who Mark treated like his own daughter; sisters, Jodie (Richard) Palmer and Julie Webb-Mericle; sister-in-law, Ruth Webb; siblings-in-law, Debrorah Brosz, Steve Brosz, Beth (Mike) Warsen; and many nieces, nephews and cousins. He was preceded in death by his parents, Noel and Julia; and his brother, Joel Webb.

A Sacred Fire was lit upon his passing and will remain burning through January 2, 2025 at his son's home, 155 Naman Court, Wayland, MI 49348.

A memorial gathering will take place at Gorden Funeral Residence, Allegan Chapel, on Saturday, January 4, 2025 from 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM.

Three boats set on fire at Gun Lake marina

Multiple fire departments responded to a boat fire at an Allegan County marina last Thursday.

It happened at Gun Lake Marina on Patterson Road in Shelbyville, near 124th Avenue.

The fire damaged three boats before being brought under control. Troopers say no one was injured.

Investigators believe the fire was intentionally set. The incident is being treated as a criminal investigation by the Michigan State Police.

No arrests have been made yet.

Troopers say the fire was contained thanks to quick response from Wayland, Orangeville, Martin, and Yankee Springs Fire Departments.

Authorities are asking anyone with information about the incident to contact the MSP Wayland Post at 269-792-2213.

Congress should not ban Tik Tok

MIKE'S MUSINGS

MIKE WILCOX
■ PUBLISHER ■

This been a new push in Congress to out right ban or heavily regulate Tic Tok. I'm neither a user nor am I fan of social media in general. However, to ban or heavily regulate the most popular social media platform in our country, and do nothing to regulate its competitors, is Congress caving to the anti-China sentiment.

You see Tik Tok originated in China. It was started by a Chinese company called Byte Dance, that has many Chinese and U.S. investors- one of them being the Chinese government. Proponents of a ban claim personal information from Tik Tok users can be accumulated and used by the Chinese government against America and its citizens.

Sorry, but I don't buy that. Today's Tik Tok is U.S. based. Top officials, from the CEO on down, have nothing to do with China. It has thousands of investors, mostly U.S. citizens, that are making good money, because the app is very appealing to the masses.

Another reason legislators see the need to heavily regulate Tik Tok, is that in their view it poisons the minds of its millions of young users. Much like Instagram, it provides short video clips that sometimes can be political in nature. They claim Hamas, Isis and other radical groups utilize Tik Tok to recruit and influence young audiences.

Couldn't the same, however, be said, about the aforementioned Instagram and Facebook and X and on and on. If we are going to regulate one social media company, then we should regulate them all. That, in this writer's opinion, however, would definitely abuse first amendment rights that we all are afforded in our Constitution.

One of the more sensible member in Congress, send Rand Paul, has brought up to more interesting reasons a Tik Tok ban, or heavy regulations makes no sense. He says"

"TikTok is banned in China," Paul said. "We're thinking – or people who want to ban it are thinking – Wow, we're going to really defeat the Chinese communists, by becoming Chinese authoritarians and banning it in our country? TikTok is banned in China. So, we're going to emulate the Chinese communists by banning it in our country?"

And then he sensibly makes the argument that a ban or regulation would harm American investors. He adds,

"We know that the Chinese government does demand things, but we don't know that any information really is going from TikTok to any of these people in China," he said, noting that a provable crime is necessary to take property from Americans.

Just a side note, there are thousands of American investors. They would take a bath financially if Tik Tok were to be banned or heavily regulated.

Rather than Congress passing more regulatory laws- don't we have enough regulations on our lives- wouldn't it make more sense to encourage parents to regulate their children. It should be their responsibility to know and determine how much social media their children are watching and interacting with.

Parents ought to determine what is right and wrong for their children. Personally, I am tired of government attempting to make those decisions for us. Sure, Tik Tok can poison young minds if they are viewing inappropriate propaganda. But so can X, or Facebook. The key is parental regulation, not government.

Life as Performance Art

G CORWIN STOPPEL

As with so many other parts of life, what was formerly known as suicide has often been tidied up and renamed, "Assisted dying." Not that there is much difference between the two terms; it still makes us uncomfortable.

In western culture, suicide has always abhorred. The ancient Romans considered it to be a serious offense against the person, the family, and the empire. If an individual chose to take their own life, the government confiscated all of their tangible assets, leaving their family with nothing.

Some of the more wicked emperors came up with a way to convert suicide into adding money into the public (the emperor's) coffers. Suicide was against the law, but the emperor would select one or more wealthy individuals and send a messenger to them to tell them that they were about to be arrested for treason. They would be taken in chains to Rome, tried and convicted, all of their assets would be confiscated by the government, and their family would be sold into slavery. Or, they were slowly told they could take their own life, the emperor will still seize all your wealth, but your family can go free. It was not good either way.

Later, the Church and government routine confiscated the assets of those who committed suicide because the government considered suicide to be a serious offense self-murder. The Church claimed that suicide was self-murder, and because the individual could not confess their sins and be absolved after they died, they went to the grave as an unrepentant sinner. Often, that meant the grave was not in a church cemetery and was a source of sorrow and shame for the family.

Attempted suicide is still against the law in many countries, but more recently it has been sanctioned by some governments. However, it is carefully regulated. For example, in some states in this country, a person who is terminally ill with less than six months to live can, with support of his or her doctor, petition the state to be allowed an early exit. But in other countries, most notably Canada, a person can request assisted death for almost any and all reasons. In 2024, a young woman was terribly depressed, saw no real future ahead of her, was very lonely and without friends. She had no physical ailments or terminal illness, and the government agreed to her request.

You and I are rapidly finding ourselves caught in the middle of diametrically opposite moral imperatives. On the one hand suicide or assisted death is the taking of human life; on the other hand, we do not want to see anyone suffer. One is the reverence for life; the other is a concern, if not reverence, for economics under the guise of ending pain.

We have a very long tradition of tremendous reverence for all life, regardless of its quality or an individual's contribution to society. Opposing it, is our belief in personal autonomy. We should, we say, make our own decisions in what we believe is best for us. If I believe that because of medical or other conditions, I cannot live in dignity, then I have the right to bring my life to an end.

The words of the Roman stoic philosopher, Seneca, make great sense in this debate. "It makes a great deal of difference whether a man is lengthening his life or lengthening his death."

A strong argument for assisted death for those suffering from an irrevocable illness is that it spares them and loved ones a lot of pain and helps protect the assets that might be passed on to them rather than the medical profession. The rationale is 'we would never make our pet animal suffer, so why should we insist a human suffer?'

That appears to be humane. After all, none of us wants to spend our final days and hours racked in tremendous pain. We don't want it for anyone. We do not want to spend our final months or years suffering from irreversible dimension.

That may appear to be humane, but there is always the very great potential that it will slip into the dark side. Instead of being allowed to have an assisted death, the decision might be made for us or a loved one, often by the government. This is exactly what happened when the Bavarian corporal ran Germany in the 1930s. Children whose mental capacity was severely diminished and required round the clock care were euthanized by the government. Those who suffered from serious mental or physical illnesses suffered the same fate.

It could happen again, this time, perhaps with variations. In theory, someone who was of advanced age, unable to work or contribute to society, might one day be wheeled out of their home or a care facility, never to return. Or, it could happen for any other reason a government deemed appropriate.

The real question is whether you and I want to live in a society where relief from pain, for some predetermined reason, leads to an expectation of euthanasia. To quote Dickens, society's goal is to "decrease the surplus population" based primarily on economics. Are we willing to allow ourselves to get to a point where enforced assisted death becomes public policy because it is expedient?

I believe there is a very porous wall between mandated life regardless of medical circumstances, and a policy of assisted death. We will be hard pressed to find a one size fits all answer, and that is because we are a product of our own success. A century and a half people often died from appendicitis. Then, physicians and surgeons began removing the offending organ, and the majority of people lived. A century ago, before penicillin, pneumonia was often called, "the old man's friend," because it shortened the life of many elderly patients. Seventy plus years ago the royal physicians, knowing that King George was very near the end, hastened things along with a little extra morphine, so his passing could be announced in the Times rather than the 'low class' tabloids.

Part of the reason we must have these lengthy discussions and debates is because medicine has moved from the majority of physicians general or family practice, to an ever-growing battalion of specialists. Over a century ago, Dr. Will Mayo warned of the dangers of over-relying on specialists at the expenses of wisdom and experience. The older generation of doctors knew their patients, approached final stages of a terminal illness and life with great caution and gentleness.

It may not have been a perfect system, but I think it is far wider and safer than turning a herb of politicians their lobbyists lose on this very sticky moral question. It means that churches and religious groups, advocates for those with serious illnesses, serious mental and/or physical challenges, and advocates for those of advanced age have their work cut out for them. We either make our voices heard, or we will be hearing the voices of others - and we might not like what they are saying.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Stop deforestation of state land

Dear Editor,

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) plans to clear 420 acres of state forest near Gaylord to lease the area for solar development, selling out sportsmen/women for a project officials acknowledge could increase the state's carbon footprint. Scott Whitcomb, the DNR's director of public lands, confirmed the department will soon solicit bids to lease 420 acres in Otsego County's Hayes Township for solar development following an analysis of 1,200 acres near a major power transmission line and adjacent 200-megawatt solar farm on private land.

The decision, he said, is part of a broader plan to lease 4,000 acres of public land across the state to address two pressing issues: dwindling DNR revenues from hunting and fishing license sales, and Democrats' goal of forcing 100% "clean energy" by 2040. Whitcomb acknowledged that the Michigan Healthy Climate Plan, approved by Democrats and Gov. Gretchen Whitmer in 2023, directs officials to "avoid land-use conversion that causes a net increase in emissions and prioritize land uses that reduce emissions."

Research from Harvard University and The Massachusetts Audubon Society highlights how clear-cutting forest land for solar development results in a net increase in carbon by eliminating the only feasible means of removing the element from the atmosphere. The clear-cutting approach also devastates wildlife by fragmenting habitat, impacting biodiversity and climate resilience.

This deforestation will destroy habitats and effectively kill wildlife. Let me make that clear, Whitmer and the DNR are choosing to kill wildlife so they can develop solar fields.

The vast majority of public land in Michigan was purchased with revenues from the state's hunters and anglers, with use restrictions that are supposed to prioritize their interests and wildlife management. The Whitmer administration and the DNR specifically are tasked with protecting our natural resources, instead of initiating this questionably legal scheme.

Many in Michigan on both sides of the aisle are questioning whether the DNR even has the legal or administrative authority to lease public land for private use. Just as the state rightfully holds citizens accountable for their unethical conservation actions – likewise, people are demanding accountability from the Michigan government for their unethical conservation management practices."

With thousands of acres of brownfield properties, thousands of miles of abandoned railroad bed and additional optional sites, it is inexcusable to even consider the use of forest lands or agricultural property for Whitmer's Green Initiative. Once into solar fields these properties will never be reclaimed to their original condition.

Rural areas were always going to bear the brunt of this government overreach, even when a lot of rural areas don't want these projects and their elected officials voted against such programs. What good is so-called green energy when we're cutting down thousands of acres of trees and destroying our agricultural resources to create the infrastructure to support it?"

John R. Young
Hamilton Township

National debt result of Trump tax cuts

Dear Editor:

In this week's newspaper, Mike Wilcox suggests that he apparently agrees with DOGE, that government spending needs to be curbed. I think most people, including me, would agree with that statement, but the devil is in the details. I remember reading once that a Southern politician one stated that there a number of services people want, but when it comes to paying for them, they seemed to say, "don't tax me, but tax that man behind the tree." He goes on to state that many businesses received pandemic funding, but he couldn't get more for his business. I feel sorry for you, but why do you think you are special? I could be wrong, but I remember reading that a number of politicians received funds for their businesses. Perhaps you have a young newspaper intern who would like to check out Charles Grassley and Marjory Taylor Green to see if their businesses received pandemic funds while they served in Congress.

Mike, you go on to criticize giving money to Ukraine to the tune of $174 billion in military aid plus an additional $4.8 million to them. You are old enough to remember when the United States, United Kingdom and Russia agreed to protect Ukraine if they gave up their nuclear arms so they would not fall into the arms of terrorists. If the United States turns it back on the treaty, why should any country trust the United States on anything in the future. At the same time, you don't seem to care that the United States has given $158 billion to Israel since 1948, plus an additional $3.8 million dollars this year, none of which has to be paid back. Don't you think this has contributed to our enormous deficit? Do you agree that our senior citizen's should have their social security and Medicare cut to reduce the deficit? Do you know that citizens of Israel are entitled to Universal Health Care? How about our citizens receiving Universal Health care?

Finally, you stated that "the biggest waste of money is the interest we are paying each year to support our national debt". I ask you how this wasn't the result of the enormous tax cuts given to the wealthy by Trump and the Republicans during his first term. By the way, they will get to keep their tax cuts after 2025 but the rest of us ordinary citizens will see a massive tax increase because our cuts were "limited" and will soon end.

Sincerely
Eric R. Erickson

Do the Local Thing

Shopping in town helps local shops, cafes and restaurants, and the business owners who make them unique! When you shop local the whole community benefits.

ShopLocal

The Allegan COUNTY NEWS

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P.O. Box 189, 241 Hubbard St.
Allegan, MI 49010-0189 (269) 673-5534
e-mail: Wilcoxnewspapers@gmail.com Web site: www.wilcoxnewspapers.com

Published weekly by The Allegan County News. R. Michael Wilcox publisher. Subscriptions: $40 per year in county; $55 per year in Michigan; $55 out of state; Foreign rates upon request. Periodicals postage paid at Allegan, MI 49010. Postal Publication No. 013-700. Postmaster: Send address corrections to The Allegan County News, P.O. Box 189, Allegan, MI 49010-0189.

the UE Otsego & Plainwell UNION ENTERPRISE

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P.O. Box 189, 241 Hubbard St., Allegan, MI 49010-0189
(269) 673-5534
e-mail: Wilcoxnewspapers@gmail.com Web site: www.wilcoxnewspapers.com

Published weekly by The Union Enterprise. R. Michael Wilcox publisher. Subscriptions: $40 per year in Allegan County. $55 in Michigan; $55 out of state. Periodicals postage paid at Allegan, MI 49010 and at additional mailing office Postal Publication No. 413600. Postmaster: Send address corrections to Union Enterprise, P.O. Box 189, 241 Hubbard St., Allegan MI 49010

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4 P.M. Monday

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Tree trimming to take place in Pullman area

By Gari Voss

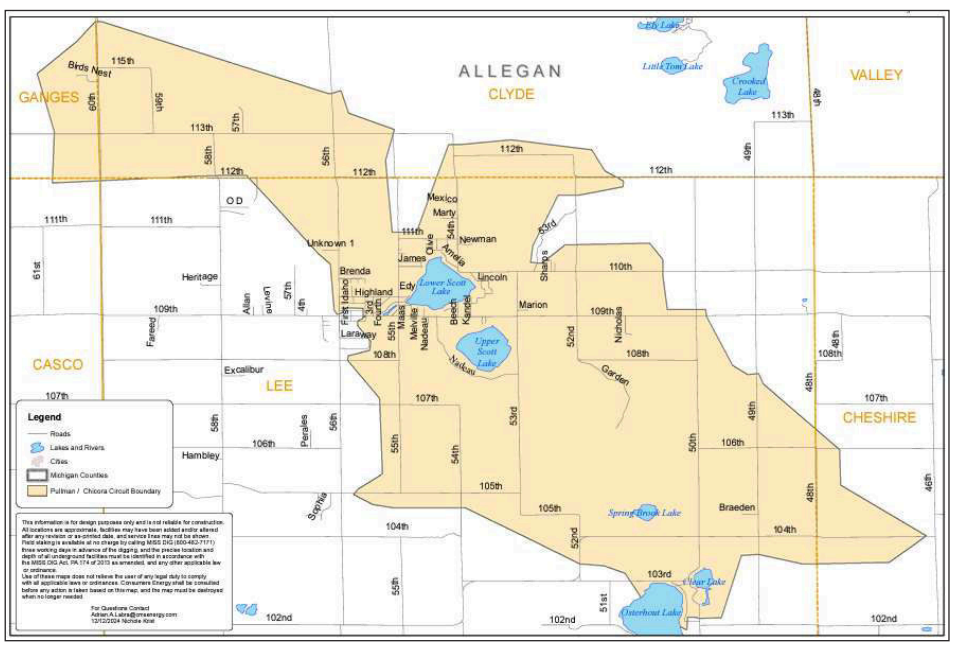
Consumers Energy had contracted tree trimmers busy through 2024, and limbs and trees along lines that had not been maintained for years received attention. Entering winter 2025, the culling continues. Derek Nofz, Community Affairs Area Manager, informed Township administrators in the Pullman area of Consumers' Forestry Line Cleaning Project.

Residents who will be affected by the trimming and removing of trees and brush will receive notification that their property will be affected. At the same time, information was shared on the importance of this work to ensure continued electrical service through the winter.

Winter snow can be beautiful as the flakes accumulate on limbs and trunks of trees along roads and streets. But the weight of the snow and the freeze/thaw cycle can be extremely dangerous. Limbs bend toward high voltage electric lines. Even if the limbs do not break and fall on the lines, they can lay against the lines and cause outages.

Consumers Energy wants everyone to remember what to do if a power line is down or compromised. First, call 9-1-1 and report the location. Second, call 800 477-5050 to speak with Consumers. Finally, NEVER touch the branch, tree or line.

To maintain safety, always assume that a power line is energized and dangerous. Power lines are not insulated, so if touched, they can cause severe injury or death. If a branch or tree is near a power line, call Consumers. Do not attempt to trim the branches or remove the tree or brush. Do not let children climb trees that are near power lines or remove objects that are in trees near lines.



Consumers Energy released their plan to complete maintenance of the power lines through the Pullman area. To reach Consumers' goal of reducing power outages because of trees and/or limbs, foresters and tree trimming crews will work through winter months.

Consumers Energy employs foresters who are members of and certified by the International Society of Arboriculture. They patrol the lines before men and machines come to cut the trees and brush. Taking into consideration distance from lines and health of trees, the forester marks trees or brush for maintenance. A blue dot indicates the tree's branches will be trimmed while a blue X indicates the tree will be cut down. If a tree is outside the easement, it will have a blue A. Brush that will be cleared is marked with a blue slash (/). Not only lines, but secondary voltage conductors and services will be cleared of any tree limbs that rub on conductors.

When the tree service teams come through with their equipment, wood will be left for the property owners to use. Smaller limbs will be chipped and taken away from landscaped areas. Chunks of limbs and trunks will be left for the owner to split for use. Brush in wooded areas will be piled to create habitat for wildlife and impede growth of trees along easements. Mulch might be scattered along the right-of-way on public land. Trees will be cut close to the ground level, and stumps will be sprayed with a herbicide to prevent future growth. Property owners will need to remove low-lying stumps.

Property owners can assist with future powerline maintenance when planning their landscaping. Consumers Energy suggests that no trees should be planted near power lines. The first rule of thumb is to consider the height of the mature tree. Tall trees like maples, oak, willows, blue spruce, white spruce and other pines should be planted no closer than 30 feet from a power line. Medium size trees can be planted 30 feet from a line. Small trees that will mature at 20 feet or less can be planted within a 30-foot distance.

Winter may seem like a strange time to manage nature, but this can be prime time for the crews to achieve the goal to provide adequate clearance, help trees heal, and direct future growth away from electric lines.

As work continues across Allegan County in the Pullman area, remember to give workers and their equipment respect. Working around high voltage lines is dangerous work.

Whenever there is a concern about downed wires, gas emergencies, security concerns or vandalism, call Consumers Energy at 800 477-5050 or through social media such as Facebook, Twitter, etc.

Outstanding educator nominees sought

The Allegan County School Boards Association is once again holding their annual "Outstanding People for Education Award." The purpose of the award is to recognize and honor people in education who are excelling in their field and/or are making an impact in the quality of education in Allegan County.

All nominations are due by Friday, February 28th, 2025, to a local school district office. A nomination must include the name of the nominee, the building or department where the nominee works, the nominee's position, the nominee's home address or phone if known, how the person has made a difference in the quality of education in Allegan County or made a difference in a student's education, the name of the person making the nomination and a request to remain anonymous if desired, and the relationship of the nominator to the nominee.

Examples of those to nominate could include: a teacher, classroom aide, administrator, secretary, board member, volunteer, bus driver, custodian, support staff, social worker, therapist, consultant, community member, or anyone who supports education.

Some things to consider when nominating someone, consider those who have made a difference in the overall quality of education by demonstrating knowledge and skill in their area of responsibility, have developed new or unique programs that enhance the classroom experience, play a leadership role in education, are a true "team player" in the school setting, provides significant support for a program or service, and exhibits an attitude that promotes a positive working and learning environment.

This could also be someone who has made an impact on the quality of an individual student's educational experience by demonstrating sensitivity to the needs of individual students and provides service "above and beyond" their job description.

Nominations can come from anyone - students, parents, school staff and community members - and can also be kept anonymous.

Each school district in the county will appoint a Selection Committee that can select up to three recipients, who will be honored at the ACSBA Recognition Banquet in May. They will each be presented with an award created by local students.

Each school district's Selection Committee will be comprised of at least one administrator, one board member, one teacher, and one support staff. Final approval is granted by ACSBA. The Allegan County School's Communication Team coordinates this award.

Certified pesticide applicator exam set for Allegan

Becoming a certified pesticide applicator in Michigan is essential to apply restricted use pesti-cides in agricultural, commercial or residential settings. Certification guarantees that applicators are knowledgeable about safety, proper pesticide usage and adherence to state regulations.

Individuals who would like to take their core review, aerial standard, or fumigation standard ex-ams can do so on Monday, Jan. 13, at the Allegan County Human Services building, 3255 122nd Ave., Allegan. No commercial category tests will be offered on this date.

Check-in for the program is 8 to 8:30 a.m. The Core review class covers all the chapters of the Na-tional Pesticide Applicators Certification Core Manual and will take place from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. After lunch, MDARD will begin the testing session at approximately 1 p.m.

If individuals miss the Jan. 13 date, core exams and review sessions will take place across the state until May. See all testing dates and more information on pesticide credits at: canr.msu.edu/psep/.

New BOC set to meet for first time

By John Raffel
Correspondent

ALLEGAN — The new Board of Commissioners will hold the first meeting of its four-year term this Thursday, January 9. The five-member body will elect a chair and a vice chair to preside over its meetings. In addition, the board is set to receive and perhaps release a community report and as previously mentioned, approve a cover letter for the 2,500 recipients in the statistical sample of the county's population.

The Allegan County Road Commission will hold its annual January meetings with township governments this week. Scheduled for Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, Jan 7,8 and 9, respectively, the 7p.m. meetings are organized by regions of the county.

The meetings review the proposed projects for the year and in future years.

Letters to the editor

Millionaires need to pay their fair share

Editor,

While I share our editor's concern that adding to our national debt is increasingly unsustainable I can't say that I share the irrational exuberance that he and others place on the quixotically called "Department of Government Efficiency" headed by Elon Musk and Vivek Ramaswamy.

If a recent editorial in the Allegan County News is any indication most of the instances of "waste" cited was penny ante stuff that was snuck onto more important legislation by local congressmen answering to the more parochial concerns of their constituents and without legislative powers what does anyone think will come of DOGE recommendations.

The biggest item cited was aid to Ukraine to support it's war against unprovoked Russian aggression which I think is justifiable because not only have our national interests never aligned with Russia but also because of the botch they made of their invasion they've had to seek help from both China and North Korea which keeps both of them off balance all of which is to our advantage. Money well spent as we are not Ukraine's sole supporting ally.

The real problem with solving our national debt is the current focus on solving it solely through cuts to services that will mostly negatively impact the middle class (us) while ignoring increasing revenue through raising the top tax bracket which is currently at 37% to 90% which it was in the 1950's.

Does Trump and Musk want to "Make America Great Again"? Let them step up to pay their fair share. Same for the health insurance guy who was making 10 million dollars a year before coming to an untimely end on a New York street. Brian Niccol, CEO of Starbuck's, is set to make 23 million dollars in 2025 while his baristas can't afford housing. Have we forgotten Warren Buffet's pointing out that under the current tax codes his secretary pays more in taxes than he does?

Want to save Social Security? Why should those who make over $400,000 a year not have to pay taxes on income above that amount?

Want to "Make America Great Again"?

Wake up!

David Ohmart

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Concerts ■ *from Page A1*

much cultural variety and interest as we could, along with the highest caliber performances," Gross said.

Gross suggests that those wishing to attend the concerts arrive early in order to ensure a seat.

Here is a little more about this year's Winter Concert Series Acts:

• The Rebel Eves (Sunday, Feb. 16)—Comprised of three Michigan-bred award-winning songwriters, Katie Pederson, Grace Theisen and Jilian Linklater have spent the better part of the last decade writing, touring and harmonizing across the country with successful solo careers.

Vintage Mitten calls the Rebel Eves, "The hottest American folk group to come out of the Midwest with original songs in a long while."

• MexiCuba (Sunday, Feb. 23)—MexiCuba is a Latin Band located in Grand Rapids and comprised of musicians from Mexico and Cuba. MexiCuba is thrilled to share the cultural heritage of their music, rooted in the dynamic syncopation and colorful arrangements of various Latin traditions.

Selkie

The Rebel Eves

• "Parti-Gras", featuring Kanola Band (Sunday, March 2)—The library's annual winter party will feature Cajun refreshments provided by River Road Foods and the joyous sounds of Kanola Band.

Bringing together some of the most experienced and diverse musicians in the US jazz scene, Kanola Band pays tribute to the great music and heritage of New Orleans. Dipping into the city's diverse musical history—including traditional Dixieland, groovin' zydeco and soulful funk to blasting brass-band second lines—audiences of all ages will leave feeling just a bit happier than when they came.

• Selkie (Sunday, March 9)—Selkie is a trio of dynamic Celtic musicians who play traditional music and original music with a trademark intensity and drive. The sounds of flute, fiddle, bouzouki, banjo, guitar, accordion, and harp are woven into Selkie's music, along with the vocal harmonies they use for their songs.

Six Plainwell Robotics teams complete in tournament

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

GRANDVILLE--A total of 42 high school robotics teams from across the state gathered at the Grandville Competition Center on Saturday, Jan. 4, for the West Michigan New Year's Robotics Tournament.

Six of those teams were part of the Plainwell Robotics Club.

Team Siege had the best showing of the Plainwell contingent, placing ninth after the qualifying rounds and captaining the seventh-place alliance in the playoff round.

The team, consisting of Walker Clippinger, Owen Ferris and Isaiah Looney-McPhillips, lost in the quarterfinals.

Siege, coached by Matte Clippinger and Jason Ferris, was presented with the Amaze Award, which recognizes a consistently high-performing and competitive robot.

The other five Plainwell teams were Infernal Legion, Up Dawg, En Passant, Nuclear Reactors and Ring Kong.

Members of Team Siege (from left, Walker Clippinger, Owen Ferris and Isaiah Looney-McPhillips) earned the Amaze Award at the West Michigan New Year's Robotics Tournament. (Photo provided)

Infernal Legion, comprised of Kolton Johnson, Danielle Klein, Rori Rosati and Christopher Stuut, finished the qualifying round in 14th place. The team was invited to join the eighth-place alliance for the playoffs.

Like Siege, Infernal Legion—coached by Dan Klein, fell in the quarterfinals.

Here is a look at the other Plainwell teams:

* Up Dawg (Aiden Mallory, Hiro Nguyen, Clay Rankin and Bryce Stoeffler) placed 15th after the qualifiers and were invited to join the 10th-place alliance. They lost in the Round of Sixteen in the playoffs. Jim Mallory is the team coach.

* En Passant (Aiden Glass, Bryce McCall, Joseph Sanderson and Caleb Williams) placed 17th after the qualifying round. They invited to join the 11th-place alliance and lost in the Round of Sixteen.

* Nuclear Reactors (Lauryn Cook, Jack Fritz and Ayden Young) placed 29th after the qualifying round. They are coached by Shannon Fritz.

* Ring Kong (Luca Cassada, Parker Montange, Blaine Rensi and Lucas Stoll), coached by Sarah Orr and Curtis Orr, placed 35th after the qualifying round.

Residents reminded of importance of emergency alert siren testing

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

On Friday, Jan. 3, the Allegan County Emergency Management, in partnership with all fire service agencies across the county, conducted its routine test of the emergency alert siren system.

These tests—which are performed on the first Friday of each month at 11 a.m.—are used to confirm the system's preparedness for emergency situations.

The tests are designed to assess the functionality and reliability of the sirens, which serve as a vital tool for warning residents of natural disasters, hazardous conditions or other urgent events.

According to Plainwell Department of Public Safety director Kevin Callahan, these monthly tests play a vital role in keeping the public safe.

"Conducting regular tests of our emergency alert system is essential to ensure we can quickly and effectively notify the public during emergencies," Callahan said. "We appreciate the community's understanding during these routine tests."

The importance of the tests were made clear during the summer.

"Earlier on, regular testing helped identify issues that were promptly repaired, ensuring the system remains operational," Callahan said.

Information the public should know, according to officials, includes:

* The sirens will emit a steady or wailing tone lasting about three minutes. This is a test only; no action is required.

* If inclement weather or an actual emergency occurs, the test will be rescheduled to a later date determined by Allegan County Emergency Management.

* Residents are encouraged to use these monthly tests as an opportunity to review their personal emergency preparedness plans and confirm they have access to current emergency information.

For further details about the emergency alert siren system or to access emergency preparedness tips, visit the following resources:

Allegan County Emergency at https://www.allegancounty.org/courts-law-enforcement/emergency-operations

Michigan State Police Emergency Management & Homeland Security Division at https://www.michigan.gov/msp/divisions/emhsd

City of Otsego asks for input on five-year recreation plan

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

On Monday, Jan. 20, the City of Otsego will hold a public hearing on its proposed five-year Community Recreation Plan and would like the public's input.

The meeting is scheduled to begin at 7 p.m. at Otsego City Hall, 117 E. Orleans St.

A draft of the Community Recreation Plan, which covers the years 2025-2029, is available for review at Otsego City Hall during normal business hours. City officials said a copy can also be found online at www.cityofotsego.org.

Written comments from the public that are received by Sunday, Jan. 19, will receive responses in the final Five-Year Community Recreation Plan.

Written comments should be sent to city manager Aaron Mitchell at amitchell@cityofotsego.org.

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Plainwell boys swim & dive team breaks in new pool

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

Christmas was over, but members of the Plainwell boys swim & dive team got one more gift on Monday, Dec. 30.

That's when the team took its first plunge into the district's new pool, which is one of the centerpieces of the new field house.

"Honestly, it is so surreal," Plainwell swim & dive coach Andrea Murphy said of being in the new pool. "I still can't believe it."

Plainwell junior Sam Harper

Murphy, a Plainwell High School graduate, starting her coaching career at Allegan High School before coming back "home." One of her goals for the district and the community in general was to help secure funding for a new pool.

That funding came as part of a bond proposal that voters passed in 2019.

The field house also includes a new gymnasium and an indoor walking track.

"We are so grateful to our community for supporting this project," Murphy said. "I can't wait for everyone to see it."

Murphy's swimmers, like junior Sam Harper, share her enthusiasm for the new pool.

"The new pool is very exciting to swim in and brings a new and different energy to practice," Harper said. "I think it will make our team better with all of the new equipment, starting blocks and team room."

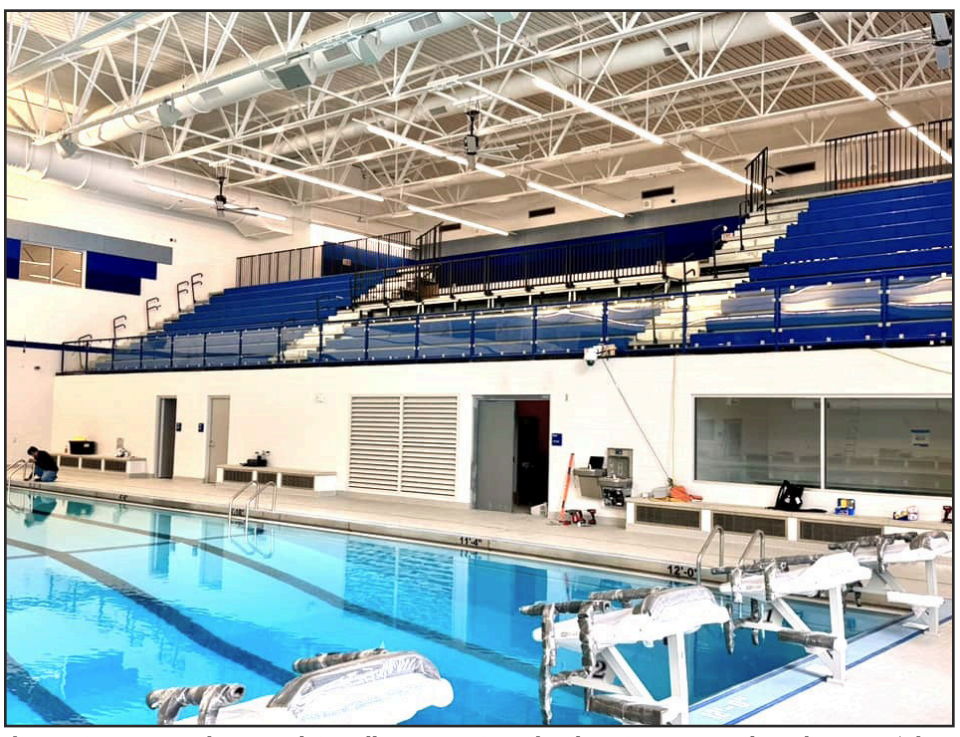
The starting blocks mentioned by Harper are state-of-the-art, according to Murphy.

"(The new blocks) will help with our starts and relays," Murphy said.

The main benefit of the new pool—which includes eight lanes and a separate diving area—is its size, Murphy said.

"With the number of lanes we have, we can have high quality practices instead of swimming over each other," she said. "We can spread the team out and have focus groups. We can also get our club and middle school teams in here earlier and home earlier rather than 8:30 at night."

The windows at the new Plainwell Community Schools swimming pool are among swim coach Andrea Murphy's favorite features. (Photo provided)


The seating area at the new Plainwell Community Schools swimming pool can be seen. (Photo provided)

Diving coach Lynne Seibert couldn't be happier about the dedicated diving area and the possibilities it presents.

"Lynne is excited that the diving boards are in a separate place to ensure safety," Murphy said. "She also really enjoys the brand new boards and how effortlessly the fulcrum moves. On a side note, she did help design the platform."

When it comes to the highlights of the new pool, a big one for Murphy are the windows that allow in natural light.

"The best part is when the sun comes cascading in," she said.

Other features of the new pool include:

* A reception office in the front where people can get info, pay and check in for programs and another office in the back for staff.

* An officials/lifeguard room.

* A family locker room.

* A "beautiful" hospitality room/classroom that can host parties and provide a space for lifeguard classes.

* A timing office.

* A shower by the diving boards for divers to stay warm.

"We also have suit spinners," Murphy added.

Murphy stressed the difference between the new pool and the old one.

"We loved our old pool, and it did a great job for many years and has produced a lot of great athletes and memories for our community," Murphy said. "But she is old and tired and wasn't going to make it much longer.

"I am so excited for the new facility and expanding our programs. We have so much more room in the pool. We will be able to provide more consistent programs year-round for our community and hopefully expand more."

And while she is excited about what the new pool offers to her teams, Murphy is equally as pleased with the impact it will have on the community.

"I am hoping that they will come check out our programs," Murphy said of community members. "We have had to shudder a lot during the transition period, so I am excited to get everything back up and running and then add some.

"Once we fully open, we will be able to offer the community the option of pool party rentals, aqua aerobics, masters swim class, open swim and noon lap swim with the goal to have morning and evening lap swims."

In addition, all three Plainwell elementary schools—Starr, Gilkey and Cooper—are able to offer swim lessons for its students along with the middle school and high school gym classes.

Hamilton boys wrestling takes fourth at Falcon Invitational in Allendale

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

ALLENDALE—Tough competition.

That's what Hamilton wrestling coach Trenton Holyfield was hoping for when he took his team to the Falcon Invitational in Allendale on Saturday, Jan. 4.

And that's exactly what the Hawkeyes got, as Hamilton placed fourth out of 16 teams.

"We knew going in that this tournament would be our toughest competition all season," Holyfield said. "All of our best wrestlers were challenged, and we are grateful for that as it gives them an idea of where they stand."

Seven Hawkeyes emerged with top-six finishes in their respective weight classes, led by a pair of champions.

Malachi Kapenga—fresh off recording the 150th win of his career the previous week—took top honors at 138 pounds, while Jake Chase was first at f165.

Chase Morrison (113 pounds), Bryce Morrison (150 pounds), Trace Lopez (157 pounds) and Shane Dams (285 pounds) all earned third-place finishes.

Tyler Block was sixth at 175 pounds.

The previous day, Hamilton's girls team traveled to Three Rivers for an individual tournament. A total of 22 team were represented in the girls division, and three Hawkeyes placed in the top four of respective weight classes.

Korra Kapenga was the top finisher at 115 pounds, while Ana Ruggles won at 130 pounds. Alyssa Volkers was fourth at 135 pounds.

Hamilton wrestlers, including Malachi Kapenga (third from left), pose following the Falcon Invitational. (Photo provided)

Hopkins basketball teams compete at Van Andel Arena

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

GRAND RAPIDS—The Hopkins boys and girls basketball team's started the new year in style, taking on Godwin Heights at the Van Andel Arena in downtown Grand Rapids on Thursday, Jan. 2.

Trent Smith handles the ball for the Hopkins boys basketball team in a recent game. (Photo by Jason Wesseldyk)

And it was a split decision for the Vikings.

The Hopkins girls won in the opener of the two games by a score of 42-20, while the Hopkins boys fell 73-52.

The games marked the start of OK Silver play.

In the girls game, the trio of Cora Hall, Ava VanderVeen and Reegan Helderop led a balanced scoring attack for the Vikings.

Hall led all scorers with nine points, while VanderVeen and Helderop were close behind with eight points each.

Alyssa Bracelin chipped in with five points for Hopkins.

The victory snapped a five-game skid for the Hopkins girls, upping the team's record to 2-5.

The Hopkins boys, meanwhile, slipped to 2-7. The Vikings had been hoping to secure consecutive wins for the first time this season after besting Grand River Prep 65-52 six days earlier.

"We gave them a good fight, but ultimately we just didn't have enough offense to keep up with them," Hopkins boys coach Jake Jewett said of the Godwin Heights game. "We always know when we play Godwin that they're going to be very athletic and pressure us.

"We handled the pressure really well, but just couldn't get enough scoring going in the second half."

The Hopkins boys found themselves down 20-12 after one quarter and 36-24 at halftime. The Vikings did hold a 20-19 scoring edge in the third quarter, with Merek Zapolnik scoring nine of his 14 points for Hopkins in that stanza.

But Godwin put the game away by outscoring Hopkins 18-8 in the final frame.

Cruz Hitzler led the Vikings with 15 points. Trent Smith added 10 points in the loss.

And while disappointed with the outcome of the game, Jewett was happy that his team had the opportunity to play at a venue like Van Andel Arena.

"It was a really cool experience for our guys to be able to play at Van Andel," he said. "They had a lot of fun, and it will for sure be a memorable experience for them."

Allegan wrestling wins tourney

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

GRAND RAPIDS—Another weekend, another tournament championship for the Allegan boys wrestling team.

One week after earning the top spot in the Comstock Invitational, the Tigers finished first at the West Catholic Dunneback Memorial Tournament on Saturday, Jan. 3.

"The team has made a great start to the season so far," Allegan coach Chase Beard said.

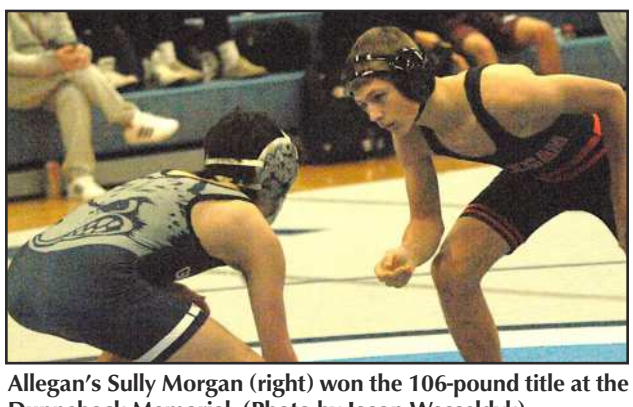
Six Allegan wrestlers finished first in their respective weight class, led by returning state qualifier Treydan VanderKooi at 144 pounds.

Other champions for the Tigers were champions Sully Morgan at 106, Cooper Prentice at 120, Luke Wedge at 138, Landon Coulson at 150 and Aiden Pearce at 157.

Not to be outdone, the Allegan girls also took first place in their division.

Dawn DeGood, a returning state qualifier, led the charge by winning at 140 pounds.

Serenity Puente at 115 pounds and Miya Carter at 125 pounds were each runner-up.


Allegan's Sully Morgan (right) won the 106-pound title at the Dunneback Memorial. (Photo by Jason Wesseldyk)

Girls postseason events set MHSAA attendance record

A record number of spectators at girls postseason events during the 2023-24 school year pushed Michigan High School Athletic Association attendance past 1.4 million fans for the second straight, with the total of 471,651 spectators for girls competitions.

The previous all-time best for attendance for girls sports was set in 2014-15.

In total, MHSAA tournament events drew 1,449,574 spectators at competitions for which admission is charged. That represented just over a half-percent decrease from 2022-23, but was still the second highest overall postseason attendance over the last seven years.

Attendance at MHSAA boys tournament events during 2023-24 was 1,008,070, a three-percent decrease from the year before. The MHSAA annually tracks attendance for all sports except golf, skiing and tennis, as single tickets are not sold for those sports.

Record spectator turnout for the softball and track & field tournaments drove the girls overall increase.

Softball set an overall tournament record with 49,636 fans, besting the previous record set just the year before by nearly 2,000. Softball also set an individual-round record with 4,935 fans at Quarterfinals.

Track & Field—with girls and boys competing together—drew a record 42,899 spectators overall, and a Regional record of 25,661. Both track totals bested previous records set during the 2020-21 school year.

Several more sports saw attendance increases during 2023-24:

* Girls basketball overall postseason attendance was up significantly and for the third-straight year, this time to 158,126 fans for a nine-percent increase from 2022-23.

* The Individual Wrestling Tournament drew 48,237 fans, an eight-percent increase from the previous season, and set records at the District (13,308) and Regional (11,089) levels.

Saugatuck's Mylah Simpson drives past Martin's Alley Bacon in a game this season. Girls basketball had the highest postseason attendance for girls sports last year. (Photo by Jason Wesseldyk)

Overall attendance for competitive cheer (29,297, up 12 percent), girls lacrosse (5,627, up six percent), boys lacrosse (17,107, up less than one percent) and boys swimming & diving (6,116, up 33 percent) all were up as well from 2022-23.

Competitive cheer's increase was keyed in part by record attendance at the District level (14,528). Baseball Districts (36,553), Boys Lacrosse Quarterfinals (3,021) and Girls Diving Regionals (879) also set records.

Football remains the most-attended MHSAA Tournament sport and drew 363,563 spectators for its playoff series—a decrease of nearly five percent from the previous year. Still, football did have the highest attendance during the Semifinal rounds (32,596) since 2012-13.

Boys basketball attendance again ranked second at 280,800 fans, down four percent from the previous year but with increases for the Regional and Quarterfinal rounds.

Girls basketball remained third for overall attendance and first among girls sports, followed again by volleyball, which drew 113,239 fans. That was only 313 fans fewer than the year before as postseason attendance in that sport has seen less than a percentage point change year to year over the last three seasons.

MHSAA announces changes for winter sports season

With Christmas break now over, the 2024-25 winter sports season will get back into full swing for high school in Allegan County and throughout the state.

Spectators will notice some changes in various sports this season as compared to years past, as announced by the Michigan High School Athletic Association.

For starters, this marks the first season in which an MHSAA Finals team championship will be awarded in girls wrestling.

After first introducing a girls championship bracket to the Individual Wrestling Finals for the 2021-22 season, the MHSAA will honor its first team champion based on those individual finishes. The format will be similar to how MHSAA team championships were awarded for boys wrestling prior to the creation of the dual format Team Finals with the 1987-88 season.

Also on the wrestling mat, a competition rule change alters the penalty for using a wrestler at an ineligible weight class, dependent on when the ineligible wrestler is discovered.

Beginning this season, the use of an ineligible wrestler—if discovered during the involved match—will result in six team points being awarded to the opponent, plus the head coach of the team with the ineligible wrestler will be assessed an unsportsmanlike conduct penalty resulting in a one-point team score deduction.

If the ineligible wrestler is discovered after the involved match, any points earned by the offending wrestler will be removed from the team score, along with the point for unsportsmanlike conduct, and six points will be added to the offended team's total.

In both instances, neither wrestler involved in the match in question may compete again in that dual. If the ineligible wrestler is discovered after the dual is completed, the teams have left the mat area and the scorebook has been signed by the official, the results and team score will stand.

A pair of other rule changes in wrestling also will be immediately noticeable.

The number of match points awarded for a takedown was increased from two to three. Also, near-fall points will now be awarded based on the number of seconds during which the near-fall criteria are met—beginning with two points for two seconds, up to four points for four seconds.

Postseasons for basketball and bowling also will incorporate slight changes.

In basketball, entire District brackets will be seeded for the first time, instead of the previous top two teams receiving seeds only. Michigan Power Ratings (MPR) data will still be used to seed those full brackets.

In bowling, Regionals may now take place as early in the week as Wednesday and Thursday, as long as the Team and Singles competitions are competed on consecutive days. Previously, those took place only on Fridays and Saturdays, respectively.

The 2024-25 Winter campaign culminates with postseason tournaments, as the championship schedule begins with the Upper Peninsula Girls & Boys Swimming & Diving Finals on Feb. 15 and wraps up with the Girls Basketball Finals on March 22. Here is a complete list of winter tournament dates:

Boys Basketball
Districts – Feb. 24, 26, 28
Regionals – March 4, 6
Quarterfinals – March 11
Semifinals – March 13-14
Finals – March 15

Girls Basketball
Districts – March 3, 5, 7
Regionals – March 10, 12
Quarterfinals – March 18
Semifinals – March 20-21
Finals – March 22

Bowling
Regionals – Feb. 19-22
Finals – Feb. 28-March 1

Competitive Cheer
Districts – Feb. 14-15
Regionals – Feb. 22
Finals – Feb. 28-March

Ice Hockey
Regionals – Feb. 17-26
Quarterfinals – March 1
Semifinals – March 6-7
Finals – March 8

Skiing
Regionals – Feb. 10-14
Finals – Feb. 24

Swimming & Diving
Lower Peninsula Boys Diving Regionals – March 6
Lower Peninsula Boys Finals – March 14-15

Wrestling – Team
Districts – Feb. 5-6
Regionals – Feb. 12
Finals – Feb. 21-22

Wrestling – Individual
Districts – Feb. 8
Boys Regionals – Feb. 15
Girls Regionals – Feb. 16
Finals – Feb. 28-March 1

Representative Council receives reports during Fall Meeting last month

The Representative Council of the Michigan High School Athletic Association received reports on the upcoming sponsorship of two recently-added sports, provided support for a study group to discuss the number of postseason divisions for several more sports, and elected a new president for the first time in a decade during its Fall Meeting last month in East Lansing.

Generally, the Council takes only a few actions during its Fall Meeting, with topics often introduced for additional consideration and action during its meetings in March and May. The Council took only one action at this meeting but began conversations on several topics that will be continued throughout the remainder of this school year.

The lone action regarded baseball and a previously-approved requirement for teams to submit their pitch counts online beginning with the Spring 2025 season. The Council approved a one-year delay in that requirement to allow more time for technology development and implementation.

The Council received reports on two sports set to begin with MHSAA sponsorship with the 2025-26 school year—girls field hockey and boys volleyball.

The first Girls Field Hockey Committee has met and will be sending several proposals to the Council for action during its March meeting in preparation for the Fall 2025 season. The Volleyball Committee will meet soon with potential proposals for boys volleyball coming before the Council in March or May.

MHSAA staff led a discussion regarding the number of postseason divisions for baseball, basketball, Lower Peninsula cross country, softball, Lower Peninsula track & field and volleyball, which are all sponsored by at least 550 schools.

■ see **Rep Council**, Page B3

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ELIZABETH V. BAUER
Attorney at Law
128 East Bridge St., Plainwell
Ramsey & Bauer
elizabeth@ramseybauer.net
ph: 269-685-6883
fax: 269-685-2631
ramseybauer.net

Rep Council ■ from Page B2

The conversation included data from a 2023 Update Meeting poll question that addressed the topic and discussions that took place during MHSAA sport committee meetings during the 2023-24 school year. The Council discussed if adding fifth divisions to those sports is necessary or desirable and gave support for MHSAA staff to form a study group on the topic and provide a report to the Council during its May 2025 meeting.

Council members discussed social media issues that had arisen in the school sports community over the last several months, and how member schools should address these situations and the role the MHSAA should play in communicating with all schools involved in specific instances.

The Council also received updates from the MHSAA's Sports Medicine Advisory Committee and discussed several matters related to recently completed fall tournaments, broadcast partnerships, MHSAA Athletic Director Update Meeting and In-Service Programs and other administrative topics.

The Fall Meeting also saw elections of Council officers for the upcoming year.

Midland assistant principal and athletic director Eric Albright was elected president, as retired Grand Haven Superintendent Scott Grimes completed his tenure on the Council and 10th and final term as president. Brighton High School athletic director John Thompson was reelected as Council vice president, and Vic Michaels, director of physical education and athletics for the Archdiocese of Detroit, was reelected as secretary-treasurer.

Additionally, Westland John Glenn athletic director Jason Malloy was appointed for a second two-year term on the Council. Monica Merritt, superintendent for Plymouth-Canton Community Schools, was appointed for a first two-year term.

The Representative Council is the legislative body of the MHSAA. All but five members are elected by member schools.

Four members are appointed by the Council to facilitate representation of females and minorities, and the 19th position is occupied by the Superintendent of Public Instruction or designee.

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For The Record

Peek at the Past

From the pages of The Allegan News and The Allegan County News and Gazette:

Jan. 9, 1950

Oldest living graduate helps build new school: Ground-breaking ceremonies for the new $343,000 elementary school building in Plainwell were held Tuesday morning with Mrs. Marha Crispe, 82, the oldest living graduate of PH3, present to turn the first shovel of dirt. Her graduation date was June 4, 1884.

Mrs. Crispe was ready for the occasion, waking a little after 6 a.m. just to be ready for the 9:15 event. She was interested from the very beginning of the proposal and stood in a crowded line to cast her vote at the polls of the special election August 4, which carried 3 to 1. She says this is not the first, but the third school—not counting the six Plainwell bridges—she has helped build "with her tongue and her taxes."

Although she has no children of her own, she claims all the children of the city as hers and is concerned over the present crowded conditions.

Besides the high school and Bridge Street school, classes are held in both the Baptist and Methodist churches in the area.

Jan. 9, 1975

Allegan nurses take 'road to Morocco': Despite marriage proposals from young Moroccan suitors, two local nurses are back in Allegan living in their Grand Street apartment and reliving their 10-day tour of the North African kingdom and short tour of Madrid, Spain.

The two Allegan General Hospital licensed practical nurses, Linda Banks and Elizabeth Church, returned from the tour with a multitude of colored photographs, handwoven camel hair and wool blankets, soft leather pouch bags made from camel hide, a hand-woven rug and other paraphernalia.

They said they enjoyed the unique shopping experiences in the outdoor markets where they bartered with the locals who pitched tents in the streets to sell their wares.

The style of eating was unique too—they ate the foods, usually prepared with olive oil, with their fingers. Though they were offered handwashing facilities when they entered the casinos, they had only napkins to clean up with after the meals.

Jan. 13, 2000

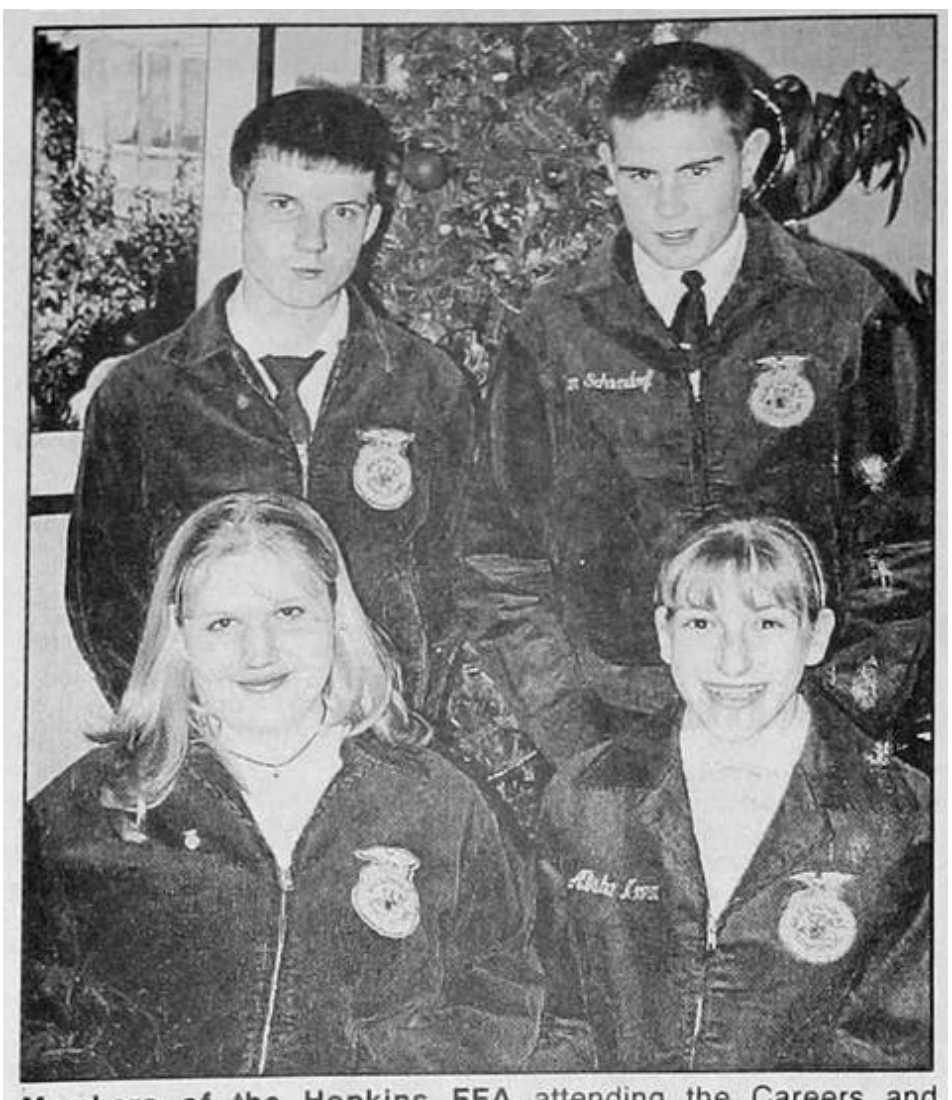
Students learn farm career skills: Hopkins FFA members, along with more than 160 FFA members from across the state, received in-depth leadership training and learned specific skills necessary within careers in agriculture and natural resources recently in Mt. Pleasant.

The Michigan Farm Bureau sponsored the Careers and Leadership Conference, where 40 FFA chapters attended. Representing Hopkins were Christine Bartz, Alisha Norman, Shannon Knapp and Ben Schaendorf.

"The Careers and Leadership Conference is a great way for FFA members to learn more about agriculture careers," said John Walter, manager of the Young Famer Department at Michigan Farm Bureau. "Members got to hear firsthand from college students, advisors and professors as to what to work on when looking for a career in the field of agriculture."

The members heard from a panel of professionals within the agricultural sector and had a chance to ask questions about their careers and how they got into their individual profession.

Students also had a chance to hear from peers in the state discussion meet finals, as a panel of six FFA members discussed issues facing agriculture and natural resources.



Members of the Hopkins FFA attending the Careers and Leaders conference included: front from left Christine Bartz, Alisha Norman; and back from left: Shannon Knapp and Ben Schaendorf. (Photo provided)

Jan. 9, 2020

Fire destroys Otsego barn: Employees of Vande Bunte Eggs-operated Konos Farms in Otsego Township could only stare in disbelief as a towering pillar of black smoke poured into the sky from one of several barns.

They had evacuated the poultry farm at 2127 110th Av. At approximately 11 a.m. Friday, Jan. 3, as fire crews from throughout the region were dispatched to prevent the fire from spreading.

The blaze ended up consuming one of the two cage-free egg barns, housing egg-laying hens.

"Emergency responders from Otsego and 15 other communities brought water and fought the fire," said Konos spokesman Brian Burch. "Their efforts contained the fire to Barn B, protecting Barn A and the lives of more than 250,000 hens."

He said Barn B contained nearly 300,000 hens, which died in the fire. Barns A and B contained roughly 550,000 hens at the time of the fire. The farm supplies more than 13 million cage-free eggs per year to grocery stores and restaurants across Michigan.

"The facility was largely saved," Burch said. "All of the office, distribution, refrigeration was protected. It's a very good result given how serious the fire was."

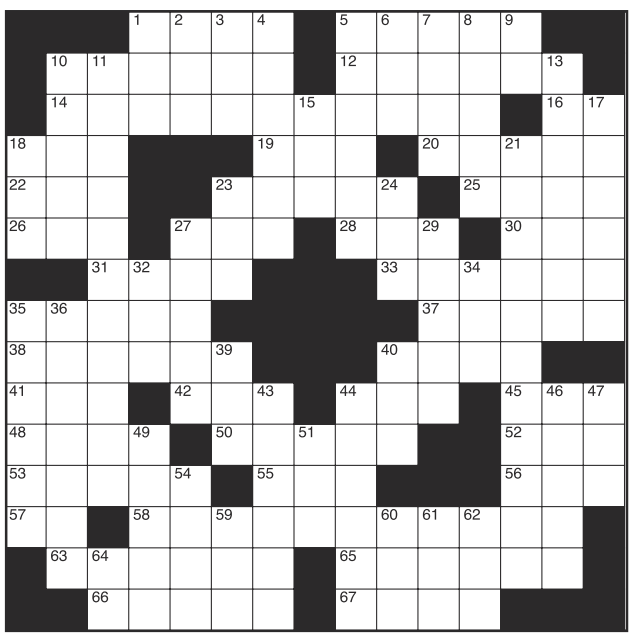
Otsego fire Chief Brandon Weber said Friday the fire's severity and the size of the facility would make it nearly impossible to determine the cause of the fire.

Burch confirmed all of the facility's 50 employees were safe and accounted for and injuries were minor.

—Compiled by Jason Wesseldyk

Elizabeth Church, left, and Linda Banks, right, were photographed with a Marrakech, Morocco casino entertainer during their tour of Morocco in November.

Crossword



CLUES ACROSS
1. Hand (Spanish)
5. Siskel and __, critics
10. Seaman
12. Chemical weapon
14. One who eliminates
16. They precede C
18. Baseball stat
19. Americans' 'uncle'
20. Cassia tree
22. Surround
23. Crisp and Pebbles are two
25. A sudden very loud sound
26. Affirmative
27. Disadvantage
28. Corpuscle count (abbr.)
30. OJ trial judge
31. New York art district
33. Become more bleak
35. Upstate NY city
37. Clarified butters
38. One who witnesses
40. Condemn
41. __ juris
42. Natural
44. Prohibit
45. Swiss river
48. Greek war god
50. 5 iron
52. New Zealand mountain parrot
53. Scandinavian surname
55. Follows sigma
56. Doctor of Education
57. Spanish be
58. One that feeds on bugs
63. Tooth issue
65. Get into
66. Lumps of clay
67. Overly studious student

CLUES DOWN
1. Variety of Chinese
2. Boxing's GOAT
3. Japanese classical theater
4. Prayer
5. Inspire with love
6. Ballplayers' accessory
7. Retailer payment system
8. More raw
9. Atomic #81
10. Fencing sword
11. Hostilities
13. Sea dweller
15. Resinlike substance secreted by certain insects
17. Businessmen
18. Rest here please (abbr.)
21. Loud devices
23. Make a soft murmuring sound
24. One point west of due south
27. Trout
29. Type of grass
32. South American plant
34. Letter of the Greek alphabet
35. Not secure
36. Traveler
39. Sweet potato
40. Period after sunrise and before sunset
43. Some are choppy
44. Asian country
46. Genus of mosquitoes
47. Cool!
49. Shrill, wailing sound
51. A baglike structure in a plant or animal
54. Within
59. Unhappy
60. Decorate a cake with frosting
61. Videocassette recorder
62. Largest English dictionary (abbr.)
64. It cools a home

■ see **Solution**, Page B5

Deaths

Nov. 22, 2024
Leslie Beth Jarsky, 76, Douglas
Dec. 18, 2024
Elaine Beth Tenhave, 96, Holland
Dec. 19, 2024
Andy Raymond Devrou, 73, Wayland Twp.
Shawn Wayne Rittenberg, 57, Leighton Twp.
Dec. 20, 2024
Jennifer Lynne Earl, 60, Allegan Twp.
Dec. 21, 2024
Donald Claude Huff, 94, Trowbridge Twp.
David Henry Ripley, 68, Allegan Twp.
Robert Lee Weeldreyer, 89, Holland
Dec. 23, 2024
Marylynn Webster, 65, Laketown Twp.
Henrietta May Everson, 95, Plainwell
Dec. 24, 2024
Ricky Glenn Doud, 64, Salem Twp.
John A Nocis Jr, 78, Allegan Twp.
Dec. 25, 2024
Gary John Vanvuren, 77, Leighton Twp.
Paul Wade Wiiliamson, 76, Valley Twp.
Carmon Jean Westberg, 58, Plainwell
Dec. 26, 2024
Peter Cornelis Hart, 82, Laketown Twp
Dec. 27, 2024
Kenneth Jack Karaus, 89, Trowbridge Twp.
Craig Allen Strick, 74, Allegan Twp.
Dec. 28, 2024
Susanna Kay Kaminski, 86, Dorr Twp.
Dec. 29, 2024
Marguerite Lillian Kramer, 95, Holland
Dec. 31, 2024
Gerrit Scholten, 82, Leighton Twp.

Marriages

The following people applied for a marriage license between Dec. 24 and Jan. 2:

DAVID DUSTIN KOSTER, Wayland, and **TAYLOR LYNN CASTILLO**, Wayland

BRIAN CHRISTOPHER FAIRBANKS, Fennville, and **ANGELA SUE PARKHILL**, Fennville

CODY JOHN FRIDLUND, Dorr, and **MAKAYLA ANN RYKSE**, Grand Rapids

KELLY JO DEWEY, Allegan, and **GARY JOSEPH KLEIN**, Allegan

EMILY LANE BUCKLEW, Allegan, and **OLIVIA BETH SCHIPPER**, Holland

MARK ALLEN SCHAFER, Hopkins, and **KERRY LEE BRIGGS**, Hopkins

MARY JO STEELE, Saugatuck, and **DEBRA YVONNE MERTZ**, Saugatuck

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				2		8		
7			6				8	4
		3						
	2					9		
			8	1	7			
							3	
				5			9	6

(See Solution Page B5)

Public Notices

MORTGAGE SALE - Pursuant to the terms and conditions of a certain mortgage and by virtue of the power of sale contained in said mortgage, made by Anthony Lottner and LeeAnn Lottner, husband and wife, Mortgagors, to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc (MERS) as nominee for Mortgage 1 Incorporated dba Michigan Mortgage, Mortgagee, dated the 10th day of August, 2021 and recorded in the office of the Register of Deeds, for The County of Allegan and State of Michigan, on the 12th day of August, 2021 in Liber 4657 of Allegan County Records, page 755, said Mortgage having been assigned to Servbank, SB on which mortgage there is claimed to be due, at the date of this notice, the sum of One Hundred Seventy-Seven Thousand Three Hundred Seventy-Four and 29/100 ($177,374.29). Notice of Foreclosure by advertisement. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the Circuit Court Allegan County, starting promptly at 09:00 AM o'clock Local Time on the 16th day of January, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. The bid may include interest thereon at 3.99000 per annum and all legal costs, charges, and expenses, including the attorney fees allowed by law, and also any sum or sums which may be paid by the undersigned, necessary to protect its interest in the premises. Which said premises are described as follows: All that certain piece or parcel of land, including any and all structures, and homes, manufactured or otherwise, located thereon, situated in the TOWNSHIP OF VALLEY, County of Allegan, State of Michigan, and described as follows, to wit: LOTS 148 AND LOT 149 IN ASPEN ACRES, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN LIBER 9 OF PLATS, PAGE 48, ALLEGAN COUNTY RECORDS Commonly known as 1778 MACDOUGALL DR, ALLEGAN, MI 49010 During the six (6) months immediately following the sale, the property may be redeemed, except that in the event that the property is determined to be abandoned pursuant to MCLA 600.3241a, the property may be redeemed 30 days after the foreclosure sale or when the time to provide the notice required by the statute expires, whichever is later. Pursuant to MCLA 600.3278, the mortgagor(s) will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. If the sale is set aside for any reason, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled only to a return of the deposit paid. The Purchaser shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagee or the Mortgagee's attorney Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, of if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. Dated: 12/19/2024 Servbank, SB Mortgagee

HLADIK, ONORATO & FEDERMAN, LLP Athena Aitas (P61824) Attorney for Servicer 3290 West Big Beaver Road, Suite 117 Troy, MI 48084 (248)362-2600 AFB FHA LOTTNER - 24-03180

1548607

(12-19)(01-09)

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement

Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM, on February 6, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information:

Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Matthew Eldean and Jami Eldean, husband and wife and Matthew Eldean, Trustee of the Matthew Eldean Trust Dated 12/19/2002

Original Mortgagee: Lake Michigan Credit Union

Foreclosing Assignee (if any): None

Date of Mortgage: August 26, 2015

Date of Mortgage Recording: October 23, 2015

Amount claimed due on date of notice: $294,999.91

Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in Township of Laketown, Allegan County, Michigan, and described as: That part of the East 1/2 of the Southwest 1/4 of Section 2, Town 4 North, Range 16 West, Laketown Township, Allegan County, Michigan, described as: Commencing at the West 1/4 Corner of said Section 2; thence South 89 degrees 16 minutes 58 seconds East 2649.64 feet along the North line of said Southwest 1/4 to the Central 1/4 Corner of said Section 2; thence South 00 degrees 03 minutes 10 seconds West 805.00 feet along the East line of said Southwest 1/4 to the place of beginning; thence South 00 degrees 03 minutes 10 seconds West 366.34 feet along said East line; thence North 89 degrees 56 minutes 50 seconds West 578.31 feet; thence Northwesterly 67.99 feet along the arc of a 60.00 foot radius curve to the left, the chord of which bears North 34 degrees 18 minutes 26 seconds West 64.41 feet; thence Northwesterly 46.17 feet along the arc of a 50.00 foot radius curve to the right, the chord of which bears North 40 degrees 19 minutes 03 seconds West 44.54 feet; thence Northwesterly 34.55 feet along the arc of a 383.00 foot radius curve to the left, the chord of which bears North 16 degrees 27 minutes 04 seconds West 34.54 feet; thence North 69 degrees 24 minutes 38 seconds East 698.15 feet to the place of beginning, Laketown Township, Allegan County, Michigan.

Common street address (if any): 4657 Arbor Trl, Holland, MI 49423-8901

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a; or, if the subject real property is used for agricultural purposes as defined by MCL 600.3240(16).

If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period.

Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.

This notice is from a debt collector.

Date of notice: January 2, 2025

Trott Law, P.C.

31440 Northwestern Hwy, Suite 145

Farmington Hills, MI 48334

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1549014

(01-02)(01-23)

FORECLOSURE NOTICE Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. Notice of foreclosure by advertisement. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 09:00 AM, February 6, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. Default has been made in the conditions of a certain mortgage made by The Edward A Korson, Single, Living Trust, Dated 08/24/1999 to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for loanDepot.com, LLC, its successors and assigns , Mortgagee, dated May 14, 2021, and recorded on September 7, 2021, in Liber 4667, Page 421, Allegan County Records, said mortgage was assigned to Nationstar Mortgage LLC by an Assignment of Mortgage dated December 03, 2024 and recorded December 11, 2024 by Document Number: 2024018338, , on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Two Hundred Seventy Thousand Six Hundred Fifty-Three and 83/100 ($270,653.83) including interest at the rate of 2.99000% per annum. Said premises are situated in the Township of Saugatuck, Allegan County, Michigan, and are described as: Unit 1, Brookwood Estates, according to the Master Deed recorded in Liber 1302, Page 123, Allegan County Records, as amended, and designated as Allegan County Condominium Subdivision Plan No 46, together with rights in the General Common Elements and the Limited Common Elements as shown on the Master Deed and as described in Act 59 of the Public Acts of 1978, as amended. Commonly known as: 3373 CLEARVIEW LN, SAUGATUCK, MI 49453 If the property is eventually sold at foreclosure sale, the redemption period will be 6.00 months from the date of sale unless the property is abandoned or used for agricultural purposes. If the property is determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241 and/or 600.3241a, the redemption period will be 30 days from the date of sale, or 15 days after statutory notice, whichever is later. If the property is presumed to be used for agricultural purposes prior to the date of the foreclosure sale pursuant to MCL 600.3240, the redemption period is 1 year. Pursuant to MCL 600.3278, if the property is sold at a foreclosure sale, the borrower(s) will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. TO ALL PURCHASERS: The foreclosing mortgagee can rescind the sale. In that event, your damages are, if any, limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at sale, plus interest. Dated: December 26, 2024 Randall S. Miller & Associates, P.C. Attorneys for Nationstar Mortgage LLC 43252 Woodward Avenue, Suite 180, Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302, (248) 335-9200 Hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Case No. 24MI00809-1

(12-26)(01-16)

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement

Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM, on February 6, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information:

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Date of Mortgage Recording: October 23, 2015

Amount claimed due on date of notice: $294,999.91

Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in Township of Laketown, Allegan County, Michigan, and described as: That part of the East 1/2 of the Southwest 1/4 of Section 2, Town 4 North, Range 16 West, Laketown Township, Allegan County, Michigan, described as: Commencing at the West 1/4 Corner of said Section 2; thence South 89 degrees 16 minutes 58 seconds East 2649.64 feet along the North line of said Southwest 1/4 to the Central 1/4 Corner of said Section 2; thence South 00 degrees 03 minutes 10 seconds West 805.00 feet along the East line of said Southwest 1/4 to the place of beginning; thence South 00 degrees 03 minutes 10 seconds West 366.34 feet along said East line; thence North 89 degrees 56 minutes 50 seconds West 578.31 feet; thence Northwesterly 67.99 feet along the arc of a 60.00 foot radius curve to the left, the chord of which bears North 34 degrees 18 minutes 26 seconds West 64.41 feet; thence Northwesterly 46.17 feet along the arc of a 50.00 foot radius curve to the right, the chord of which bears North 40 degrees 19 minutes 03 seconds West 44.54 feet; thence Northwesterly 34.55 feet along the arc of a 383.00 foot radius curve to the left, the chord of which bears North 16 degrees 27 minutes 04 seconds West 34.54 feet; thence North 69 degrees 24 minutes 38 seconds East 698.15 feet to the place of beginning, Laketown Township, Allegan County, Michigan.

Common street address (if any): 4657 Arbor Trl, Holland, MI 49423-8901

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a; or, if the subject real property is used for agricultural purposes as defined by MCL 600.3240(16).

If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period.

Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.

This notice is from a debt collector.

Date of notice: January 2, 2025

Trott Law, P.C.

31440 Northwestern Hwy, Suite 145

Farmington Hills, MI 48334

(248) 642-2515

1549014

(01-02)(01-23)

NOTICE OF DEFAULT AND FORECLOSURE SALE

WHEREAS, on December 21, 2012, a certain Mortgage was executed by Floyd Bowlby, Trustee of the Floyd Bowlby Trust U/A/D August 29, 2009 as mortgagor in favor of Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc (MERS) as nominee for American Advisors Group as mortgagee, and was recorded on January 9, 2013, in Liber 3694, on Page 727, in the Register of Deeds, Allegan County, Michigan; and

WHEREAS, the Mortgage was insured by the United States Secretary of Housing and Urban Development (the Secretary) pursuant to the National Housing Act for the purpose of providing single family housing; and

WHEREAS, the mortgage is now held by the United States Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, through mesne assignments as documented by an Assignment of Mortgage dated July 20, 2020, and recorded on September 21, 2020, in Liber 4512 on Page 987.

WHEREAS, the mortgage at Paragraph (9)(b)(i) states that Lender may require immediate payment in full of all sums secured by this Security Instrument if the property ceases to be the principal residence of a borrower for reasons other than death and the property is not the principal residence of at least one other Borrower; and

WHEREAS, the entire amount delinquent as of December 9, 2024 is $90,977.65; and

WHEREAS, by virtue of this default, the Secretary has declared the entire amount of the indebtedness secured by the Mortgage to be immediately due and payable;

NOW THEREFORE, pursuant to powers vested in me by the Single Family Mortgage Foreclosure Act of 1994, 12 U.S.C. 3751 et seq., by 24 CFR part 27, subpart B, and by the Secretary's designation of me as Foreclosure Commissioner, recorded on August 2, 2024 in Book 4962, Page 660.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on Thursday, February 6, 2025 at 9:00 am local time, the real property located in the Township of Otsego, County of Allegan, State of Michigan, will be sold at public auction to the highest bidder:

Lot 7, River Grove Subdivision, in the Northwest quarter of Section 21 and the Northeast quarter of Section 20, Town 1 North, Range 12 West, Otsego Township, Allegan County Michigan. Excepting Liens and Conveyances affecting right of way in Liber 299 Deeds, on Page 505.

Commonly known as: 552 19th St, Otsego, MI 49078

Tax Parcel ID# 17-480-007-00

The sale will be held at Allegan County Courthouse, which is located at 113 Chestnut St., Allegan, MI 49010.

The Secretary of Housing and Urban Development may bid any amount up to and including the total debt at the date as of the date of the sale, plus any and all amounts recoverable under the provision of the mortgage.

There will be no proration of taxes, rents or other income or liabilities, except that the purchaser will pay, at or before closing, his prorata share of any real estate taxes that have been paid by the Secretary to the date of the foreclosure sale.

When making their bids, all bidders except the Secretary must submit a deposit totaling 10% of the successful bid the form of a certified check or cashier's check made payable to Secretary of HUD. A deposit need not accompany each oral bid. If the successful bid is oral, a deposit of 10% must be presented before the bidding is closed. The deposit is nonrefundable. The remainder of the purchase price must be delivered within 30 days of the sale or at such other time as the Secretary may determine for good cause shown, time being of the essence. This amount, like the bid deposits, must be delivered in the form of a certified or cashier's check. If the Secretary is the highest bidder, he need not pay the bid amount in cash. The successful bidder will pay all conveying fees, all real estate and other taxes that are due on or after the delivery date of the remainder of the payment and all other costs associated with the transfer of title. At the conclusion of the sale, the deposits of the unsuccessful bidders will be returned to them.

The Secretary may grant an extension of time within which to deliver the remainder of the payment. All extensions will be for 15-day increments for a fee of $500.00, paid in advance. The extension fee shall be in the form of a certified or cashier's check made payable to the Secretary of HUD. If the high bidder closes the sale prior to the expiration of any extension period, the unused portion of the extension fee shall be applied toward the amount due.

If the high bidder is unable to close the sale within the required period, or within any extensions of time granted by the Secretary, the high bidder may be required to forfeit the cash deposit or, at the election of the foreclosure commissioner after consultation with the HUD representative, will be liable to HUD for any costs incurred as a result of such failure. The Commissioner may, at the direction of the HUD representative, offer the property to the second highest bidder for an amount equal to the highest price offered by that bidder.

There is no right of redemption, or right of possession based upon a right of redemption, in the mortgagor or others subsequent to a foreclosure completed pursuant to the Act. Therefore, the Foreclosure Commissioner will issue a Deed to the purchaser(s) upon receipt of the entire purchase price in accordance with the terms of the sale as provided herein. HUD does not guarantee that the property will be vacant.

The scheduled foreclosure sale shall be cancelled or adjourned if it is established, by documented written application of the mortgagor to the Foreclosure Commissioner not less than 3 days before the date of sale, or otherwise, that the default or defaults upon which the foreclosure is based did not exist at the time of service of this notice of default and foreclosure sale.

The mortgage cannot be "reinstated" prior to the sale, as the event accelerating the loan was not a default in payments. Payment of the entire outstanding balance of the mortgage debt is required to stop the foreclosure. The "outstanding balance" includes amounts that would be due under the mortgage agreement if payments under the mortgage had not been accelerated, including publication costs, posting costs and postage expenses incurred in giving notice, mileage by the most reasonable road distance for posting notices, reasonable and customary costs incurred for title and lien record searches, the necessary out-of-pocket costs incurred by the Foreclosure Commissioner for recording documents, a commission for the Foreclosure and all other costs incurred in connection with the foreclosure prior to the sale.

Date: _12/23/2024

Athena J. Aitas (P61824)

Foreclosure Commissioner for the United States

Secretary of Housing and Urban Development

3290 W. Big Beaver, Ste .117

Troy, MI 48084

STATE OF MICHIGAN)

COUNTY OF OAKLAND) SS.

On this 23rd day of December, 2024, before me, a Notary Public in and for Oakland County, appeared Athena J. Aitas, Foreclosure Commissioner for the United States Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, to me personally known and being duly sworn did say that said instrument was signed and acknowledged the same to be her free act and deed.

Shanon Marcella, Notary Public

Oakland County, MI acting in Oakland County, MI

My Commission expires: 06/07/2027

Drafted by and when recorded return to:

Athena J. Aitas (P61824)

Hladik, Onorato & Federman, LLC

3290 W. Big Beaver, Ste. 117

Troy, MI 48084

CPL FHA Bowlby/ 24-02172

1-2 1-16

STATE OF MICHIGAN

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE COUNTY OF ALLEGAN

WALTER P. ALEXANDER, Plaintiff.

V

FRANK W. WEBER AND LULU WEBER, DECEASED, and THEIR HEIRS AND ASSIGNS,

Defendants.

Donald H. Passenger (P39384)

Joseph J. Grzybowski (P52684)

Passenger Law PLLC

Attorneys for Defendant

1555 Arboretum Drive, SE, Suite 101

Grand Rapids, MI 49546

(616) 965-7557

dp@donplaw.com

joegriz.dp@gmail.com

Asst. jb@donplaw.com

SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION

Plaintiff may serve process on Defendant by publishing the following notice once each week for a period of three consecutive weeks in a newspaper, as defined in MCR 2.106(F), that is published in Allegan County with the following content:

"Attention: HEIRS AND ASSIGNS of FRANK W. WEBER AND LULU WEBER (the Defendants) with respect to a property on 120th Avenue, Allegan, Michigan 49010 (the Property), legally described as: E 1⁄2 of S 50 A W1⁄2 SW 4 SEC 8 T2N

R12W, Allegan County, Michigan.

An action to quiet title to the property against the above Defendants in the name of Walter Alexander, Plaintiff, as successor to Walter P. Alexander, has been filed in Allegan County Circuit Court. Unless a person claiming an interest in the Property takes action to respond to the complaint filed in this case, then all rights any such person(s) hold in the Property will be forever barred. To receive a copy of the summons and complaint in the matter, please contact Donald H. Passenger of Passenger Law PLLC, 1555 Arboretum Dr, Ste 101, Grand Rapids, MI 49504, dp@donplaw.com, and/or 616-965-7557, and provide an answer to the complaint

within twenty-eight days after the last publication of this notice."

This notice is to be published on three consecutive weeks (i.e. week of 1/6/2025; week of 1/13/2025; and week of 1/20/2025).

1-9 1-22

STATE OF MICHIGAN

PROBATE COURT

ALLEGAN COUNTY

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Decedent's Estate

CASE NO. 21-62721-DE and JUDGE

Court address 113 Chestnut Street, Allegan, MI 49010

Court telephone no.(269) 673-0250

Estate of Dale Roger Walton Date of Birth:*09/11/1964

TO ALL CREDITORS: **

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, Dale Roger Walton, died 06/16/2020.

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Michael Walton, personal representative, or to both the probate court at 113 Chestnut Street, Allegan, MI 49010 and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

July 31, 2024

Nathan Bocks, Central Park Law, PLLC P47272

1157 South Shore Drive

Holland, MI 49423

(616) 395-376

Michael Walton

3621 50th Street

Hamilton, Michigan 49419

(616) 218-1628

NOTICE TO CREDITORS TO ALL CREDITORS: The Decedent, Elke Barthel, whose last known address was 7352 Lakeridge Rd., South Haven, MI 49090, died November 11, 2024. There is no Personal Representative of the Decedent's Estate to whom letters of administration have been issued. Creditors of the Decedent are notified that all claims against the Decedent's estate will be forever barred unless presented to Sabine Callaghan, Trustee of The William Barthel and Elke Barthel Trust Dated August 7, 2006, within four months after the date of this publication. Notice is further given that the Trust will thereafter be assigned and distributed to the persons entitled to it. Dated: December 6, 2024 Sabine Callaghan, Trustee of The William Barthel and Elke Barthel Trust Dated August 7, 2006 04437 Beechwood Lane South Haven, MI 49090 Attorney for Trustee: Andrew W. Barnes (P70571) BUTZEL LONG, P.C. 317 Center Street South Haven, MI 49090 (269) 287-2010

(01-09)

Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.

Notice of foreclosure by advertisement. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM on FEBRUARY 6, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information.

Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by David Christopher Cooper, individual, to PNC Bank, National Association, Mortgagee, dated September 14, 2022 and recorded September 29, 2022 in Liber 4802, Page 617 Allegan County Records, Michigan. There is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Sixty-Four Thousand Eight Hundred Seventy and 55/100 Dollars ($64,870.55).

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue at the place of holding the circuit court within Allegan County, Michigan at 9:00 AM on FEBRUARY 6, 2025.

Said premises are located in the City of Fennville, Allegan County Michigan, and are described as:

LOT 15 OF ATWATER'S ADDITION TO THE CITY OF FENNVILLE, ACCORDING TO THE RECORDED PLAT THEREOF, AS RECORDED IN LIBER 2 OF PLATS, PAGE 14.

229 Wilson Street, Fennville, Michigan 49408

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA §600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale.

If the property is sold at foreclosure sale, pursuant to MCL 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damage to the property during the redemption period.

Dated: January 9, 2025

File No. 24-016425

Firm Name: Orlans PC

Firm Address: 1650 West Big Beaver Road, Troy MI 48084

Firm Phone Number: (248) 502.1400

(01-09)(01-30)

STATE OF MICHIGAN

PROBATE COURT

COUNTY OF ALLEGAN

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Decedent's Estate

FILE NO. 24-65200-DE

The Estate of Sheila Ann Garlock, a/k/a Sheila Garlock, Deceased

Date of Birth: 06/29/1950

NOTICE TO ALL CREDITORS: The decedent, Sheila Ann Garlock, died on November 7, 2024.

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Jeanne Bodfish, named personal representative, or to both the probate court at 113 Chestnut Street, Allegan, MI 49010, and the named personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

Date: December 23, 2024

Michael J. Becker (P81132)

Orton, Tooman, Hale, McKown & Kiel, P.C.

314 Trowbridge Street, P.O. Box 239

Allegan, MI 49010-0239

(269) 673-2136

Jeanne Bodfish, Personal Representative

6418 – 102nd Avenue

South Haven, MI 49090

(269) 906-5507

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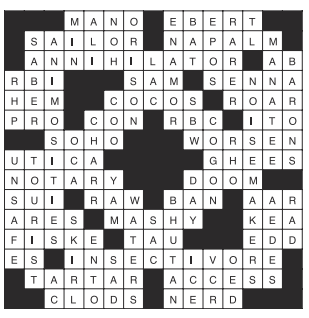

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Boat for Sale

1985 Bayliner Boat, #BL1N-82CRE585, needs engine and hull repairs. January 17, 2025 10am. Dorr Standard Service 1831 - 142nd Ave., Dorr MI. Any questions ask for Rick 616-681-9136.

Auto for sale

2017 Hyundai Accent, 87610 Miles, runs good, VIN#KMHCT4AE8HU378816, $5795 obo, sold as is. Dorr Standard. ask for Rick. 616-681-9136

Misc.

Safe Step. North America's #1 Walk-In Tub. Comprehensive lifetime warranty. Top-of-the-line installation and service. Now featuring our FREE shower package and $1600 Off for a limited time! Call today! Financing available. Call Safe Step 1-855-861-4501

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2017 Hyundai Accent, 87610 Miles, runs good, VIN#KMHCT4AE8HU378816, $5795 obo, sold as is.

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Misc.

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Auto Auction

01/10/2025 at 9:00AM abandoned vehicle auction. 2013 Caravan 2C4RDGCG2DR611947, 2008 CTS 1G6DT57V980179693. Wayland BP, 150 N Main St., Wayland, MI

2	8	4	5	6	1	3	7	9
1	7	6	3	8	9	2	4	5
9	3	5	7	2	4	8	6	1
7	9	1	6	3	2	5	8	4
4	5	3	1	9	8	6	2	7
6	2	8	4	7	5	9	1	3
3	6	9	8	1	7	4	5	2
5	1	2	9	4	6	7	3	8
8	4	7	2	5	3	1	9	6

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PUBLISHER'S NOTICE:

All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or an intention, to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination." Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodians, pregnant women and people securing custody of children under 18.

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination call HUD toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. The toll-free telephone number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.

EQUAL HOUSING LENDER

RELIGION SECTION

By G C Stoppel

We have all been around someone who is unhappy and clearly shows it by stamping their feet, whining, fussing, complaining, and lashing out. When it is someone who is younger, we are slightly more understanding than if it is an adult. We expect greater maturity from adults. Once, when the daughter of some good friends was acting up, her mother took her aside, sat her down and said, "A princess does not stomp her feet or make faces or cry in public when someone hurts her feelings. She is silent and gives an icy stare. When we get home, we make other plans so we do not have to see them again. I believe I have made myself clear." The answer was, of course, "Yes, Mommy."

Another time I watched as a father looked at his son, disappointed at his behavior, and quietly asked, "When are you going to grow up and show some responsibility?"

All too often it seems as if children will never grow up and become responsible mature adults. But when we listen to the news or many conversations of public concern, it seems that the Olds are acting more like children than children. They yell, scream, threaten, and talk over others so they can get their way. The spooky thing is when we see it in ourselves.

The good news is that all of us, with faith in God's presence in our life, can grow into maturity. We read that message many times over in the Epistles, especially in St Paul's letter about being a bona fide grown up, especially one who professes a faith in Jesus.

That is good news; the not so good news is that it often takes a group of people to help a child or adult become mature. I saw this one time at a yacht club. At first I thought I had stepped through a time warp into a by-gone era. Young people were introducing themselves, calling adults Mr and Mrs and Miss. Older children were spending time with the younger ones. Not a mobile phone was in sight. I asked a friend about this, and her comment was interesting, "You'll see this at horse shows, as well. That's because the children know they have a purpose..

The problem is that there are fewer and fewer people who are willing to serve as unofficial mentors. Church attendance is down by some 35 per cent over the past few years. Membership in some of the civic and fraternal organizations has plummeted by 50 per cent. It is even difficult to get people to come together for a picnic.

If we are going to experience maturity and face the challenges of our world, we need to incorporate older adults who know that God loves them and wants only what is best for them. Second, we need parents who are far more willing to give of themselves, their time, treasure and resources, than to receive anything in return. And finally, we need older people to find and take advantage of opportunities to share their experiences and wisdom with others.

Church seems like the perfect forum

G C Stoppel
Priest Associate
Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd, Allegan, MI

Directory of Area Churches

Allegan Assembly of God
424 DeLano St, Allegan
Pastors Tim Heath & Paul Hays
Church: 673-6577

Allegan Bible Church
412 S. Sherman, Allegan
Pastor Jon Gruss
Church: 673-6831

Allegan Christian Center
700 Ely St., Allegan
Paul Knuckles, Pastor
Church: 673-2921

Allegan County Jail
Chaplain Sarah Montgomery
Phone: 673-0350

Allegan United Methodist Church
Corner Walnut & Trowbridge streets, Allegan
Pastor Julia Humenik
Church: 673-4236;

At the Master's Feet
814 21st St., Otsego
269-694-6897
Paster Ray Brown

Blessed Sacrament Church
110 N. Cedar Street, Allegan
Fr. Simon Manjooran
Church: 673-4455

Bloomingdale Bible Church
210 Chestnut at Pine NW
Bloomingdale
Ofc. 269-427-2101

Bravo Community Church
5587 113th Ave., Fennville
Pastor Duane Terpstra
616-886-1214

Burnips United Methodist
4241 30th, Burnips
Craig VanBeek, Pastor
616-896-8410

Casco United Methodist Church
880 66th Street, South Haven
Sunday Worship 10:00 a.m.
269-227-3328
www.cascoumc.org

Chicora Country Chapel
4399 108th Ave., Allegan
Pastor Herb Curry
Phone: 521-7657

Christ Community Church
3370 113th Ave., Allegan
www.alleganccc.org ·
(269) 673-2329
Pastor Wally Coots

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints
687 Linn Street, Allegan
Church: 673-9617

Church of God - Otsego
112 Kalamazoo St., Otsego
Pastor Stephen Burrow Sr.
269-694-9481
www.otsegocog.com

Corner Bible Church
4001 124th Allegan
673-5995
www.cornerbiblechurch.com

CrossWind Community Church
1632 142nd Avenue
Dorr, MI 49323
616-359-9013
Pastor Tommy Boutell

Dunningville Reformed Church
2559 M-40, Allegan
Church: 751-5894
Pastor Eric Burrows-Stone
dunningville.org/index.html

East Martin Christian Reformed Church
510-118th Ave., Martin
269-672-5746
www.eastmartincrc.org

Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd
101 North Walnut St, Allegan
Office: 673-2254

Faith Baptist Church
2846 125th Ave., Allegan
John Looman, Pastor
673-5040 1-888-354-3272

Fennville Assembly of God
5897 124th Ave.
Fennville, MI 49408
269-561-2683

Fennville United Methodist Church
5849 124th St., Fennville
269-561-5048
Worship 11:00 a.m.
Bob Lynch, Pastor
www.fennvilleumc.org

First Presbyterian Church
200 Cutler Street, Allegan
Church: 673-4631
www.fpcallegan.org
Pastor Sheri Harris
10:30 service time.

First Baptist Church
1290 32nd St., Allegan
Service at 10:00am
Pastors Nathan Smith & Brendon Bayley
www.fbcallegan.com

First Baptist Church of Otsego
247 E Allegan St., Otsego
(269) 694-4160
firstbaptist@fbcotsego.org

First Church of God
1313 Marshall Street, Allegan
269 673-3881
www.pathtohim.org
Pastor, Tim Secord

First Congregational Church
323 Cutler Street, Allegan
Church Office: 673-3139

First Congregational Church
120 W. Morrell St., Otsego
269-694-6085
Pastor Lenny Luchetti

First Presbyterian Church of Plainwell
303 East Bridge St.
Plainwell, MI 49080
Pastor Ruth Lowry 685-5990

Friendship Bible Church
104 Baker St., Hopkins, MI
Pastor Chris Cronk and Worship Pastor Tony Caldarona
Office 793-7929

Ganges Baptist Church
6577 122nd Avenue, Fennville
269-543-4203
11AM each Sunday

Grace Church of Hamilton
3690 Lincoln Rd. P.o. Box 97
Hamilton Mi 49419
269.264.4900
Gracechurchofhamilton@gmail.com

Haven Church
PO Box 1
4691 Oak Street, Hamilton
(269)751-7300
Pastor Mike Drew
FB:havenreformedchurch

Hope Lutheran Church
290 12th St., Plainwell
(269) 685-1348
Pastor Nicole Smith
Worship 10:30am; S. School 9:15am

Hopkins Community Reformed Church
2142 128th Ave., Hopkins
(269) 793-7361
hopkinscommunitychurch.net

Hopkins United Methodist Church
322 N. Maple St., Hopkins
(269) 793-7323
Pastor Kelsey French

Horseshoe Community Bible Church
4950 104th Avenue, Grand Junction
269-521-4580 ·
Pastor Don Miller

Immanuel Lutheran Church
631 Grand Street, Allegan
Church: 673-3335
Rev. Christopher Laughlin

Journey Family Church
514 W. Van Buren St. Gobles
628-2288
SSunday 9am and 11am
Rev. Gary Napp

Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witness
2199 Taft Road, Allegan
Phone: 673-6179

Living Waters Community Church
5458 M-89, Fennville
Service: 10:30 Sundays
Pastor Andrew Leach
269-561-5277

M-40 North Church of God
1900 M-40, Allegan
Pastor Nathan Strom
Church: 673-4412

Martin Reformed Church
1073 W. Allegan St., Martin
Pastor: Matthew Hendricks
672-5596

Martin United Methodist Church
969 E. Allegan St., Martin
Pastor Margaret Stoken
269-672-7097
www.martinumc.org

Merson Church
3313 102nd Ave., Gobles, MI
Pastor Alan Carson
Office: 673-5274
www.mersonchurch.org

Montage Ministries
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Tuesdays 6:30-8:00pm

Monterey Center United Methodist Church
3022 130th Ave.
Monterey Center, 49328
Craig VanBeek, Pastor
793-7288

Mt. Calvary M.B. Church
5425 105th Ave., Pullman
Pastor Everett Belue
269-382-3405

New Hope Baptist Church
2011 Lincoln Road (M-40 N)
Pastor Tadd Butler
673-1938

Northbridge Church
8824 Douglas, Kalamazoo
269-385-4378 ·
www.northbridge.cc

Northpoint Ministries
10976 M40 (M40/CR390)
Gobles MI · 269.628.9199
Pastor Gary Lounsberry
Sunday Worship: 11am

OAKLAND CRC
4460 38th Street
Hamilton. Mi. 49419
616 688 5290
Pastor Mark Vande Zande

Otsego United Methodist Church
223 E Allegan St. Otsego MI
10:00 a.m. Worship
Reverend Dan Minor
Otsegomethodistchurch.org

Peace Lutheran Church
805 S. Wilmott St., Otsego
www.peaceotsego.com
694-6104

Pearl United Methodist Church
1689 56th St., Fennville
269-561-5048 Worship 9:30 am
Bob Lynch, Pastor
www.fennvilleumc.org

Iglesia de Dios Pentecostal M.I. Pentecostal Church of God I.M
2281 57th St, Fennville
Wed/Miércoles @ 7:00 pm
Sunday/Domingo @ 10:00 am
Worship Service @ 11:00am
Rev. Jeremias & Maribel Gaytan
231) 923-6887 - (231) 923-6959
Email: gytnj@yahoo.com

Plainwell First Baptist Church
404 W. Bridge St., Plainwell
(269) 685-8888
Pastor George Osborn

Plainwell First United Methodist Church
200 Park St. Plainwell
269-685-5113
www.fumcplainwell.com

Rectify Church
247 N. Main St., Allegan
616-218-1556
Pastor Sarah Montgomery

Refreshing Springs Ministries
201 Briggs St., Allegan
616-510-7416
Pastor Adrian Hall

Restoration Christian Community
Live service 10:00 am Sundays
RestorationChristianCommunity.org
Pastor Austin T Kreutz
269 567 8330

River of Life Church
605 W. Allegan, Otsego
269-672-9904
www.alleganchurch.com

Seventh Day Adventist Church
229 Cutler Street, Allegan
Dan Rachor, Pastor
Church: 673-3284

Shelbyville United Methodist Church
938 124th Ave., Shelbyville
672-7097 - Church office
Pastor Margaret Stoken

South Monterey United Methodist Church
Pastor Kelsey French
Church: 793-7323

St. Francis of Assisi Episcopal Church
11850 9 Mile Rd., Shelbyville
269-664-4345
Service: Sundays 9:30 am

Saint John's Church Of God In Christ
716 Academy St, Allegan
Rev. Jeremiah Johnson Sr.
Phone: 673-8590—673-3007

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church
1764 34th St., Allegan
Pastor Ronald Kruse 673-2079
Sunday Worship 11:00 a.m.

St. Margaret's Catholic Church
766 S. Farmer St., Otsego
269-694-6311

Third Coast Community Church
www.thirdcoastff.org |
269.857.5633
6069 Blue Star Hwy, Saugatuck, MI 49453
Sunday Worship: 10:00am

Trowbridge Community Church
355 26th Street, Otsego
Pastor Mykel Hall, Pastor
Church: 673-5502

The River Flows with Hope and Healing
1652 M-40 North, Allegan
Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.

Unity Baptist Church
35 14 12th St. Wayland
Pastor Kelly Ryan
Cell # (269) 330-2217

Watson Bible Church
1626 116th St., Otsego
Pastor Tim Morris
672-2166

Wayland Community Church
502 West Superior, Wayland
(616) 877-6134
Worship Sunday @ 10:30am

UniPac "Contract Packaging Specialist" 809 Airway Dr. – Highland Industrial Park 269-673-8488

RAPA Rapa Electric, Inc. 1173 Lincoln Rd., Allegan 673-3155/673-3157

Waanders Concrete Co. Ready-Mix Concrete 3169 Babylon Rd., Allegan 673-6352

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Furniture Mattress Appliance COUNTRY HOUSE FURNITURE Your Complete Home Furnishing Store! 212 Trowbridge, Allegan, MI (269) 686-1155 8337 M-140 Hwy., South Haven, MI (269) 637-6135 www.countryhousefurniture.net

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